

## » On-going Support

### Curriculum

Partner School staff are encouraged to discuss the latest developments in their subject areas with Reigate College staff. The College can also provide subject-specialist guidance to school teachers as and when it is required.

### Sport

The College's outstanding sports facilities are available to Partner Schools throughout the year to host tournaments and events.

### Partner School web presence

The College's website will shortly host a special area just for our Partner Schools. Information about events and activities for Partner School students will be displayed here along with frequently asked questions for parents.

### Careers

Reigate College has a full-time Careers department, which can be made available to Partner Schools for advice, guidance and support. The College is also happy to get involved in developing career-focus tutorial resources for Partner Schools.

### Continued Professional Development (CPD)

The College would be delighted to share good practice with school staff for the benefit of students' learning in both institutions.

## » Summary

Reigate College is committed to supporting learners in making informed decisions about their post-16 education. Therefore, the College is always keen to explore new collaborative ways of working with Partner Schools to ensure that the relationship is mutually beneficial and prosperous.



For more information or to arrange a meeting, please contact Steve Oxlade, the Principal of Reigate College, [steve.oxlade@reigate.ac.uk](mailto:steve.oxlade@reigate.ac.uk)

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# Becoming a Partner School of Reigate College



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## How Reigate College works with its Partner Schools

This document outlines how Reigate College can work with Partner Schools at each of the different stages of 11-16 education.

The College already has four Partner Schools: Reigate, Warwick, de Stafford and Oakwood, and works with these schools as their official 'sixth form'.

### » Pre-enrolment

Liaison work between Reigate College and Partner Schools commences from the pre-enrolment of students at the Partner School, as the College is represented at the school Year 6 Open Events. This is to show to parents that there is a transition path available all through school to a successful college at the end of Year 11.

### » Key Stage 3

In order to make the transition easy for students, regular contact is maintained throughout the school year.

#### Gifted & Talented

The College offers a termly Gifted and Talented Programme for students in Years 8 and 9 on the College campus covering a wide variety of curriculum areas. College staff work with both the students who show the most potential and the school's Gifted and Talented Coordinator. Schools can promote this to parents as a way of stretching the most able students and introducing them to post-16 options at an earlier age.

#### Year 9 Options Events

Reigate College is committed to having a presence at Partner School Year 9 Options Events. Discussions with College staff at this time can help to shape and focus students on making informed choices for their GCSEs. The College is also prepared to develop Tutorial activities with the school in advance of these events to show the importance of making the right decisions.

#### Sporting Events

The College hosts a number of sporting events throughout the year for Years 7 to 9 in its outstanding facilities.

### » Key Stage 4

During Years 10 and 11, there is much more support and engagement under the Careers umbrella with a view to making informed choices post-16.

#### Year 10 Days

The College compliments the hard work done in Partner Schools to ensure that students are advised on what is best for the individual post-16. The process starts with a taster day at Reigate College for year 10 students considering the College as one of their choices. The day is well advertised in the school and excellently administered to ensure that the students, who should attend, do attend.

During the day, the students are able to try out three curriculum areas that they are interested in. The College staff deliver exciting and interactive sessions to introduce students to what they can expect at Key Stage 5.

#### Year 10 Assemblies

Senior members of staff from the College are able to visit Partner Schools to provide students in Year 10 with an overview of their post-16 choices. This can be generic or specific, depending on the needs of the Partner School. This is also designed to give students a boost in terms of focusing them on improving their attendance, punctuality and motivation in order to achieve a place at the College, which is mutually beneficial to the school.

#### Year 11 Assemblies

During Year 11, the College application process starts with a whole Year 11 assembly to talk about the courses and levels offered by Reigate College and pathways open to the students. This can be done in conjunction with other local providers if required.

#### Reigate College Open Events

The assemblies are followed by Reigate College Open Events, which are well advertised and attended. Partner School students can come along and find out about the subjects in advance of finalising their application and can take a student-led tour of the extensive College campus.

### » Application

Students who attend Partner Schools are guaranteed places at Reigate College provided they meet the minimum standards for entry\*.

#### Application to Reigate College

Reigate College application forms are usually given out via the Partner Schools' tutorial systems, where further advice and guidance can be offered to students. Students are expected to then return their applications to the school, which then forwards them en-masse to the College.

#### Head of Year Liaison

A series of meetings takes place with the Head of Year 11 to discuss each student's application with a view to supporting the students and discussing appropriate courses for them. Although this is labour intensive, it is really beneficial for all parties, as it supports the learner and makes it clear to them that there is a real partnership between the school and Reigate College and that they are both interested in guiding the student towards what is best for them.

Targets can be set by the College for each student to aid the Partner School in improving the student's performance e.g. for attendance, punctuality and effort. The targets are reviewed later in the year before the final transition to College and the norm is that students respond favourably to them.

#### Initial Interview

All Partner School students are interviewed first by our specialist College interviewers, providing them with an opportunity to discuss their potential study programme in detail. With an average length of thirty minutes, these interviews provide students and parents with an ideal opportunity to discuss aspirations and future career pathways with experienced staff who have an extensive knowledge of the College curriculum.

#### The Offer

Partner School students are not only guaranteed a place at Reigate College (provided they meet the minimum standards for entry\*), but they are also guaranteed a place on any course that they are qualified to do. As students are enrolled, popular courses can become waiting list subjects. However, Partner School students will be accommodated on 'full courses' prior to any from non-partners.

Some students are given 'conditional' offers. This is

usually when their attendance, punctuality or effort in their GCSE subjects is questionable. These students are written to and advised that they must improve in one or more of these areas during the academic year before the College will agree to take them. This provides the school with an effective monitoring and motivation tool, as it is the Head of Year 11 who must provide a new, hopefully improved reference prior to the end of the academic year. This is highly effective in improving student motivation, focus and achievement.

#### Introductory Day

In July, Reigate College invites all Year 11 students onto its campus for an opportunity to sample their chosen subjects. The students can choose to attend three subject sessions throughout the day and experience first-hand what it will be like to study the subject. Any alterations to their options can be made at the end of the day.

#### Results

The final support offered to students prior to enrolment is on GCSE results day when Reigate College staff are available for drop-in sessions or by phone to discuss results and individual queries with students. This is to ensure that students who may be worried about how their results may affect their College application can get the guidance and support that they need prior to enrolment.

### » Enrolment at College

As with the initial interviews, Partner School students are interviewed first at enrolment, ensuring that they are guaranteed their subject choices. This interview builds on the initial discussion and takes into consideration their experiences on Introductory Day and their GCSE results.

### » Post College

Once the students have progressed through Reigate College, Partner Schools are provided with destinations data for their former students and copies of framed student profiles for display within their institution.

*\*Minimum standards for entry*

*Five GCSE passes (grades A\*-C) and good school report and attendance figures.*