

Education Recovery Plan



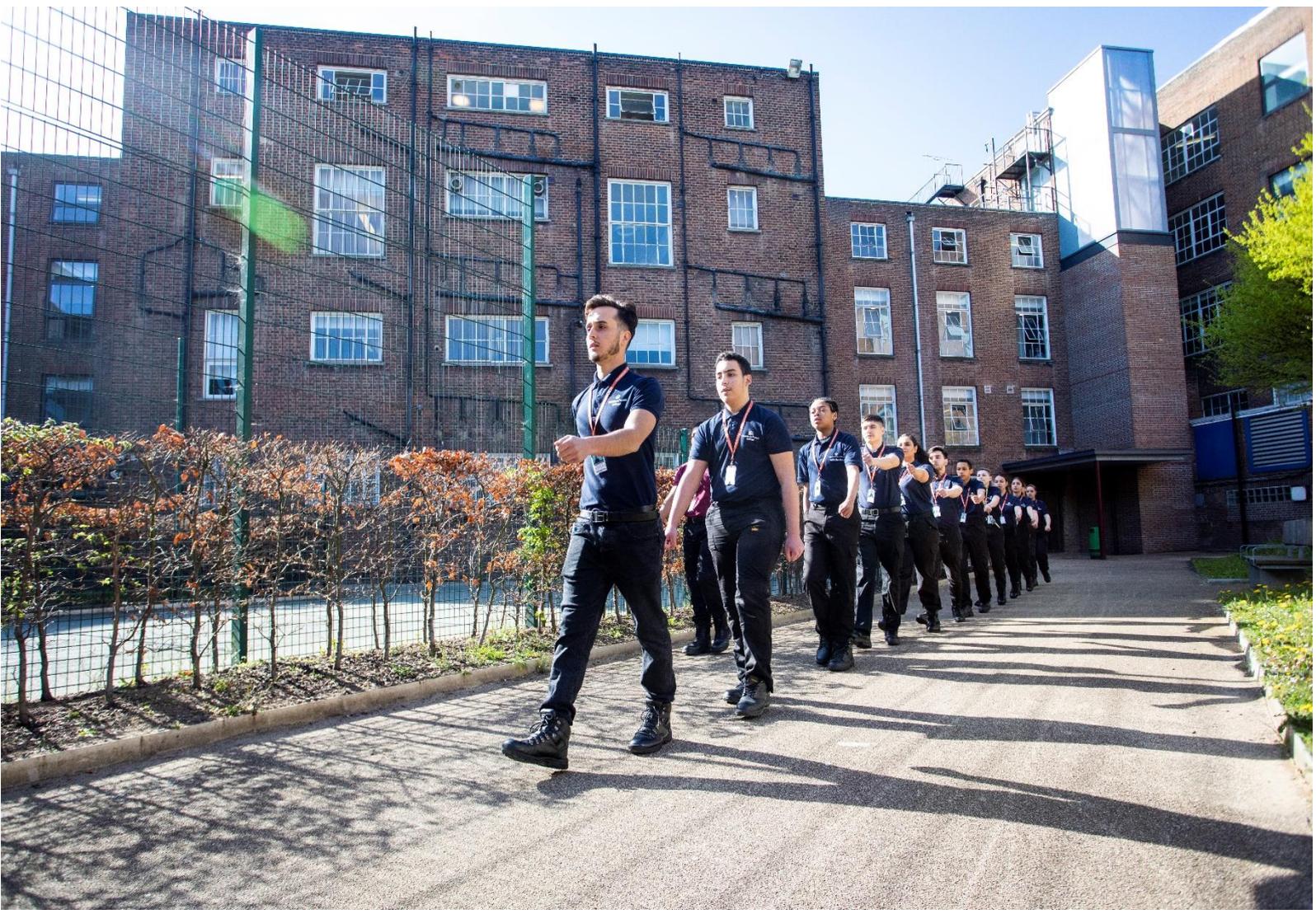
EDUCATION RECOVERY PLAN

This plan sets out the steps Waltham Forest College is taking to support students this year in the wake of the pandemic and to help them transition successfully back fully into teaching and learning so that each one can succeed and reach their fullest potential.

The College recognises that many students have experienced significant disruption to their education during the last two years because of the pandemic. This has resulted for some in a significant loss of learning with respect to the development of key knowledge, understanding and skills at a critical time during their educational journey.

The effects of this time have been far reaching and, in some cases, extreme and the impact has been felt in the very fabric of society: on finances, on home life, on friendships, and on health, mental health and well-being.

The College already has an extremely strong system of support both academically and pastorally which we have reviewed and expanded so that each student has the help they need at this time to enable them to achieve and to equip them for the next steps in their life.



WHAT HAVE WE DONE?	WHAT ACTIONS HAVE BEEN IMPLEMENTED?	IMPACT
Returned to face-to-face learning	All teaching and learning is fully onsite so students are back in the College with teaching staff and with their peers.	Students have the full teaching and learning experience with access to teachers, classrooms and areas for practical delivery.
Enhanced our digital learning and support	We are continuing to invest in digital technology and to provide students with the input and support they need to compete in an ever-increasing digital world.	Students have access to digital learning and a wider range of equipment onsite and will be supported to develop essential digital skills.
Extended and revised tutorial provision	Pastoral topics that explore the realities of the post-COVID world have been introduced. Tutorial themes around mental health and physical wellbeing have been strengthened and are covered early in the year. Additional workshops delivered by external partners and experts have also been arranged.	<p>Students are given the opportunity to have active discussions on these key topics and to be sign-posted to support services, both internal and external as appropriate.</p> <p>Further tutorial themes have been revisited to ensure learners revisit knowledge and participate in additional workshops that support the theme such as Sexual Harassment workshops, violence against women, peer-on-peer abuse and how to stay safe online.</p> <p>The College has also introduced short qualifications in Mental Health awareness and the term 2 Student Council meeting will be themed around mental health.</p>

<p>Reviewed our curriculum</p>	<p>Looked at the sequencing of learning and activities and the development of practical skills to ensure that learning is paced appropriately and practical skills are developed early on in case of future lockdowns.</p>	<p>Students are able to access and understand their learning and are developing key practical skills early on in their course.</p>
<p>Provided targeted small group support to compensate for 'lost learning'.</p>	<p>Introduced a range of bespoke input on a small group basis in response to particular student needs or gaps in learning and skills. This covers vocational and practical skills as well as English and maths and study skills.</p> <p>Vocational areas are providing specific support to students, for example lunchtime workshops and for students undertaking the Seville and Lisbon Erasmus placements in November/December accompanying staff will be putting on cooking masterclasses as well as tutorial catch workshops during the evenings and weekends offering further 1-2-1 support.</p>	<p>Students will benefit from targeted delivery to support them and help them catch up on learning lost and develop key understanding, knowledge and skills.</p>
<p>Provided renewed focus on employability skills</p>	<p>Revised our curriculum offer and introduced additional qualifications that sit alongside students' main qualifications to increase their skills and improve their employability.</p> <p>Increased the range of work experience opportunities.</p> <p>Ensured top quality careers and next steps' advice is available.</p>	<p>Students will be able to develop and improve key employability skills which will enhance their life chances.</p> <p>Students will be able to confidently make informed choices about their next step.</p>

<p>Introduced 1:1 tutorial time on a weekly basis</p>	<p>All students are expected to have five to six 1:1 tutorials over the course of the academic year.</p>	<p>Students have the opportunity to raise concerns with their tutors and are fully supported on personal, social, academic and career development through personalised and ongoing communication.</p>
<p>Reviewed our delivery of Maths and English and provided more support</p>	<p>Extra Maths and English workshops are planned for students resitting their GCSE in November for 4 weeks including half term. This will be repeated for actual GCSE exams throughout the academic year based on student mock exam results.</p>	<p>Students have the opportunity to resit their English / Maths GCSE in November and to attend bespoke workshops so they are well-prepared.</p> <p>Significantly more learners took their November resits as compared to the previous year - 168 learners out of 1051 (16%) compared to 49 out of 813 (6%) in 2020-21</p> <p>Of those who sat the exam, 68% had attended the Maths and English workshop/s. 64% of those that attended English workshops achieved GCSE 4-9 and 62% of those that attended Maths workshops achieved GCSE 4-9</p> <p>Although the November GCSE pass rate for English at 17.9% is below Provider Group Average and the outcomes published by JCQ, the November GCSE pass rate for Maths at 24.4% is above both the Provider</p>

	<p>We have complete assessment schedules in place that include Mock exams for students for both English and Maths to be carried under exam conditions so students can prepare for the actual exams.</p> <p>Additional in-class support is being provided for more one to one help with topics.</p> <p>Those students taking Functional Skills will be entered for exams on demand this year.</p> <p>English and maths groups have been streamlined to avoid having too many levels in one group.</p>	<p>Group Average and outcomes published by JCQ.</p> <p>Students will have much-needed exam practice to improve their exam technique and help them succeed.</p> <p>Students will benefit from direct input and support in particular areas of need.</p> <p>Students will be able to take their exams at the point they are ready to do so. As @ January 2022, 202 learners (42%) on Entry Level Maths have passed their exams and moved on to the next level and a small minority have passed their Level 1 or Level 2 Maths. 114 out of 213 learners on Entry Level English have already passed the Writing element of their exam and approximately one third of Level 1 and Level 2 learners have passed their Writing element.</p> <p>Students will benefit from more targeted input and delivery.</p>
<p>Expanded our counselling and mental health provision</p>	<p>The College offers a counselling service to all students and holds a professional membership with the British Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy. Resources have been increased to</p>	<p>Students have access to high-quality counselling and mental-health support.</p>

ensure the college meets service demands and expectations. The College is also working with the local authority to train students as Mental Health Ambassadors to raise the awareness mental health support.

Staff training has taken place around supporting students with anxiety and mental health awareness.

The College has accelerated its plans to further promote good mental health, supporting learners to feel empowered and resilient to cope with life demands and has signed up to the Association of Colleges' Mental Health and Wellbeing Charter. The College has also:

Worked with key strategic safeguarding partners and hosted Youth Health Champion (YHC) training in collaboration with Sir George Monoux College and Leyton Sixth Form College, with 21 participants. The training delivered by the London Borough of Waltham Forest was themed around mental health and led to participants boosting their knowledge and confidence in developing public health campaigns (themed mental health) and achieve a level 2 recognised qualification. YHC's are now trained to further influence and reach other young people and achieve behaviour changes by raising awareness of mental health issues.

Trained further 4 staff members to become Mental Health First Aiders, 16 in total. This will drive forward knowledge, confidence and skills necessary to support someone with mental health issues and support health conversations that leads to better signposting to further support.

		<p>Successfully launched the online Wellbeing Hub, which contains useful advice and tips for maintaining positive mental health and wellbeing.</p> <p>Delivered a range of mental health, personal safety and aspirational workshops during Safer Learner Week, aimed to equip learners with the knowledge they need to stay safe.</p> <p>Student council term 2 had Mental Health as its key theme with input from Kooth an organisation who provide free online support for young people. This ensured the attendants were equipped with strategies to help peers with mental health issues and reinforced where to find support.</p> <p>The QDP survey for term 1 (which had a 91% response rate), said that 91% of learners articulated that they feel safe at the college which is 3% above national benchmark and 94% of Study Programme students said they received good support from their teacher.</p>
<p>Increased opportunities for student enrichment</p>	<p>Recognising that the social side of education was one particular area that suffered during lockdown, the College has appointed an Enrichment Officer to</p>	<p>Students have the chance to enjoy various social and enrichment events that complement their studies.</p>

	work with the Students' Union and promote a range of enrichment and social opportunities.	Term 2 enrichment has now been launched and there are more sporting activities available for students to participate in. Also the LRC is now delivering study skills sessions as well as launching book club and reading club.
Provided Financial Support	Eligible students have access to the College bursary and hardship funds that will allow them to access financial support throughout their studies.	Students receiving financial support can concentrate on their studies. The College has also supported learners with digital devices.
Provided training for teachers	Continued to provide training for staff in delivering remote learning and supporting students online. Organised industry updating for all teaching staff to equip them with current industrial training in this new and emerging world of work.	Students will benefit from high quality teaching and learning that prepares them well in the event of a return to online learning and also prepares them well for future employment.
Provided extra support for students to transition into college.	Brought forward and expanded our key recruitment events and implemented an extended induction process that ensures students settle in well here at the College. Support teams and Student Ambassadors are on hand to share experiences with potential learners and talk through the courses and make well-informed choices.	Year 11 students are supported in making choices around their next steps and their transition into college is a smooth one.
Further strengthened our support for vulnerable students	The College has created a risk register of all learners classed under the vulnerable category which is being	Students receive timely support interventions and feel empowered and resilient to cope with life demands. As a

monitored by cross-college teams on a daily/weekly basis based on identified risks.

result, students remain on their programme ready to create their future.

