

Frequently Asked Questions from the Y12 parents introductory evening

What to do if a student is having problems connecting a device to the college Wi-Fi?

See the friendly IT team in B3.6 on the top floor.

How do I access Wisepay?

Please go to the college's web site (i.e. not WisePay's web site) and click on the WisePay link at the bottom of the page. You will be taken to your college's payment pages. On the right hand side of your college's payment page you will see a Login Area.

If you do have any questions please contact: email: yvonne.charles@bilborough.ac.uk or karlee.wildgoose@bilborough.ac.uk.

What's the deadline for subject changes and who should I see if I think I need to do this?

The deadline for course changes is Thursday, 30th September, If there are exceptional circumstances, please seek advice after this date. For general course changes please see jill.hay@bilborough.ac.uk for health and welfare related course changes please see michelle.harvey@bilborough.ac.uk

What is the name of the free University and Progression App that students are using?

Unifrog

What are the maximum class sizes?

Maximum classes are 25 students for classroom subjects and 22 for practical subjects

My son / daughter has always found it hard to make friends and is still trying to get to know people. Do you have any advice?

Every class has been asked to run activities so that everyone in the group knows each other by the end of week 3. Enrichments are a great place to make friends too. If students are still struggling we do have some groups where we can help like-minded people get together and so please speak to the personal tutor who will be able to advise.

Enrichment – is there a maximum number? When does Enrichment start? How can I encourage my son / daughter to do this?

There is no limit to how many Enrichment activities a student can take apart from the time they have available as long as they are managing these alongside their other studies.

Enrichment started W/C 20th September

If someone is reluctant to attend enrichment, having a conversation with the tutor in a 1-1 can help them to find something that will be both enjoyable and developmental or they can be encouraged to go along with a friend to get started.

When the Duke of Edinburgh Award start?

The first student meeting took place last week, W/C 20th September. A parent and student meeting is scheduled for 6th October on teams, 6-7pm, details around cost/fees and what it entails. Once deposits have been paid, students are enrolled on the course.

If a student wants to do work experience in a specific discipline (e.g. Medicine) is this possible?

Yes, all types of discipline are possible, and we have students doing medical placements every year. Please make an appointment with the Joanna Zielinska (Work experience Coordinator) to find out more.

What payment methods are available for the canteen? What type of food is available?

The canteen accepts cash, debit / credit cards and bursary cards. Wisepay isn't used for canteen pre-payments.

A wide range of food is available via the canteen and shop including hot meals, snacks, salads and sandwiches, catering to the full range of dietary requirements.

Does the college run parents' evenings?

Yes, year 12 parents' evenings take place in January

What is the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) and can it be taken in Y12?

An EPQ (Extended Project Qualification) is a big independent project for which you'll earn a qualification. It involves either writing an essay of about 5000 words, a pretty long piece of paperwork about your research and how you approached your project, and a final presentation where you'll talk through this essay and paperwork. Alternatively you can make an 'artefact' - this can be a piece of artwork, or something else you've physically made – and an accompanying shorter essay. Having run this qualification in a number of ways over the years, we find that students tend to perform best when they start this qualification in the summer of Y12 and complete in around February of Y13, giving plenty of time for revision in the other subjects.

What do I do if I've not yet received or have a problem with my bus pass?

Please go along to the main reception, who will be happy to help.