

Selly Park



Technology College for Girls



Mission Statement

Selly Park is a vibrant school with inspirational teachers and aspirational pupils, who engage with its partners to develop confident, knowledgeable and highly skilled pupils who are ready to succeed in the wider world. Governors, staff and pupils of Selly Park Technology College are set challenging academic and personal targets whilst being given the support and encouragement to succeed.

Aims

- Provide for the development of intellectual curiosity, creativity, self-confidence and self-respect.
- Create an educational culture which is technological, scientific, vocational and industrial.
- Provide for the acquisition of appropriate knowledge, skills and sound judgement. Foster excellent relationships and discipline based on mutual respect and support for others. Foster the physical and mental well-being of the whole college community.

School Policies

Policies which have been adopted by the Governing Body are available upon request from the Head Teacher, or from the school website.

Admissions and Appeals

Selly Park follows the procedures as laid down by the Birmingham Education Authority in respect of Admissions and Appeals. We aim to provide all prospective parents and pupils with the information necessary to enable them to gain a clear indication of what the school has to offer.

This is achieved in a number of ways:

- By welcoming all prospective parents and pupils to an open evening and open days at the school each year. Parents and pupils are taken round the school by a member of staff, either in the course of the open evening or during a working school day.
- A detailed prospectus and other information sheets are made available on request.
- Interviews and a tour of the school are arranged for prospective parents and pupils who cannot attend the open evening.
- Open evenings for the relevant year are advertised in the local press and in the book 'Secondary Education Opportunities for your child in Birmingham'.

Safeguarding

Selly Park Technology College recognise our moral statutory responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of all pupils. We endeavour to provide a safe and welcoming environment where students are respected and valued. We are alert to the signs of abuse and neglect and follow procedures to ensure that students receive effective support, protection and justice.

Welcome to Selly Park Technology College

On behalf of the students, staff and Governors. I would like to welcome you to Selly Park Technology College. We are a college for 11-16 year olds with approximately 700 students.

Selly Park Technology College is known for its high expectations, academic success, first class education and its innovative approach. Our vision and values underpin all we do. Indeed, everyone who knows us or visits our school speaks of our distinct ethos.

At Selly Park Technology College pupils feel valued and parents are welcomed as partners in their daughters' education. The most effective education is achieved when teachers and parents work together in a genuine partnership which results in all pupils being proud of their personal achievements and their school. By working together we ensure that all students enjoy their time at school, make excellent progress and leave us as confident learners with the necessary skills and attitudes to lead successful and fulfilling lives.

Teaching and Learning is at the heart of all we do. We believe that everyone has unique talents and is capable of leading and making contributions to our school, local community and the wider world. Whilst we provide a broad and balanced curriculum that ensures progression in traditional subjects, we also offer many creative and more practical-based opportunities for our students and staff to explore our diverse world and the people who inhabit it.



We recognise the individual contributions and successes of our students and staff as we encourage personal self-worth, leadership and responsibility. Our positive, encouraging culture carries us on a wave of ambition and excitement. The school ethos is felt as you walk around and meet the staff and pupils; everyone feels valued and knows the difference that they make to our school.

We retain the benefits of a small school and therefore we are able to prioritise the individual needs of students. Nevertheless, we have high aspirations and expectations of all our pupils and we aim to help develop not only academic success, but also relationships which are characterised by kindness, tolerance, helpfulness and respect.

Mrs L Darwood, Head Teacher

Welcome





Induction

Smoothing the Path from Primary to Secondary Phase for Year 7 Students

The aim of our New Intake Evening is to give prospective pupils and parents an opportunity to meet our staff and pupils, experience the Selly Park atmosphere, view our facilities and take part in some interesting activities.

Selly Park has well-established links with local primary schools, and our staff work with primary school pupils in MFL, science, technology and sporting activities. We also share our facilities with local primary schools: a good example being the use made of the sports hall for a variety of sporting activities such as basketball. This means many students know the school well before they join us.

The Heads of Year 7 visit as many of our new intake students at their primary school as possible, once they have made their choice to join Selly Park. As part of these visits there is an open "question and answer" session which the new intake students find very helpful.

During the official Induction Day in July, they are given a full day of taster lessons and activities. We also spend some time with parents on this day welcoming them to our school and reassuring them if they have any concerns.

The transition is supported by Summer Schools, which provide a wonderful opportunity for new pupils to get to know the school, some of their new teachers and make new friends. Summer School is held over two weeks during July/August and delivers sessions in a fun and exciting way.

The new intake students are looked after by staff and student mentors, so that they are made welcome in their new school and have any anxieties or queries dealt with. If a pupil is the only one joining Selly Park from a feeder school, she is offered a Selly Park student as a buddy who is available to offer support, if she so wishes.

Early in the Autumn term, we hold a Parents' Evening for Year 7 Parents and Pupils, where they can meet staff and discuss how they have settled in and deal with any concerns which may have arisen.

We are aware that first impressions are very important and we make every effort to enable our new students to start their secondary school phase in a relaxed and happy atmosphere.

Specialist Technology College Status

Whilst providing a broad and balanced curriculum, suitable to meet the individual needs and aspirations of our students, we also provide a specialist focus on technology in its broadest sense, encompassing both the creative and practical.

This means that all students study technology as part of their curriculum in Year 7, 8 and 9 and are offered a choice from four technology disciplines for their examination studies in Years 10 and 11. Our specialist status enables us to integrate a focused use of ICT within the technology curriculum.

Our computer facilities are available to all students before and after school. We continue to develop the Virtual Learning Environment (VLE).

Commitment to Excellence

Previous OFSTED inspections have recognised the positive impact of our Specialist Status on how students learn and progress.

This has resulted in the college receiving a number of prestigious awards which include the following:

- 2017 Educational Outcome Award; in recognition of being in the top 20% of non-selective schools nationally for student attainment in the 2016 KS4 exams
- International School Award (Advanced Level)
- Healthy School Standard
- Consultant School, Raising Achievement Partnership Programme
- Leading Parent Partnership Award
- Pupil Premium Awards 2016 Regional Winner West Midlands
- Expert Centre, Global Learning Centre 2016-2017
- Rights Respecting (UNICEF)
- PiXL National Progress Award 2014
- The SSAT Cultural Diversity Award
- The SSAT National Literacy Award
- The SSAT Outstanding Progress Award
- International School Award 2016-2019, Outstanding Development of International Dimension in the Curriculum
- 2017 Educational Outcomes Awards; In recognition of being in the top 10% of schools nationally for student progress in the 2016 KS4 exams

The following quote is taken from the SSAT Educational Outcome Awards;

'It's my great pleasure to commend Selly Park Technology College for Girls on their excellent 2016 performance, and to have the opportunity to highlight and share their great work at an SSAT Educational Outcomes celebration event. We know how hard teachers work to ensure the success of every child. SSAT's Educational Outcomes award recognises the professionalism, commitment & hard work of the leaders, teachers and students at Selly Park Technology College for Girls. A big thank you and well done to the pupils, staff and governors'. Sue Williamson, Chief Executive SSAT

The Global Dimension


At Selly Park we are determined to be an outward looking college with a global dimension. We believe that our students should be given opportunities to develop an appreciation of the diversity and richness of worldwide cultures, thus helping them to become "citizens of the world".

By giving a high priority to global issues and establishing meaningful links with schools in other countries, we encourage students to develop respect and understanding for linguistic, religious and cultural diversity. We want to promote a sense of international identity as well as a sense of social responsibility towards the international community.

To achieve these aims, Selly Park currently has links with schools in Cumbria, Sri-Lanka, France, Russia, South Africa, the Middle East, Ghana, Lebanon, Pakistan, Bulgaria, Spain, India and Germany. In recognition of our work in this field, Selly Park has gained the International Schools Award (Higher Level) and is a centre of excellence for the United Kingdom's Global Learning Programme.

Excellence





Strategies for Raising Achievement

Selly Park prides itself on the emphasis we place on supporting individuals in their journey through school. We ensure that every student is given the maximum assistance possible, so that they are able to achieve their “personal best”.

We offer numerous after-school revision classes and holiday booster sessions. Over Easter we offer subject-specific revision sessions as part of our Easter Revision Course. We use professional Revision Consultants to teach revision skills, ensuring students have the necessary learning skills to succeed.

Each Saturday we offer a personalised timetable from 9am until 3pm for every pupil in Year 10 and 11. This timetable includes at least one hour of small group teaching for each pupil in both English and Mathematics as the college continues to support pupils to gain the higher grades in their GCSE's.

The school is committed to monitoring pupil progress using a rigorous Tracking System, which operates across both Key Stages. Parents in KS3 receive termly reports outlining a “working at level” and “effort grade”. Interventions are put in place to support students that are identified as underachieving.

At KS4, we support students in achieving at the highest level by a tried and tested system of personalised interventions for students who are falling behind or in danger of not achieving their targets. This includes weekly catch-up meetings, dedicated support from Learning Mentors and one to one support in the completion of coursework tasks. It is overseen by the Raising Achievement Pupil Progress Group.

Behaviour for Learning

Selly Park has an excellent behavioural record based on a set of clear, simple and common sense rules. This has helped to create a strong learning culture and fosters a calm atmosphere around the college. It promotes a positive attitude in classrooms which is essential to learning. Friendly relationships amongst and between students and staff enables girls to feel happy, relaxed and safe. This system is underpinned by a set of rewards and sanctions, which recognises good behaviour, whilst helping students to alter negative behaviour. OFSTED recognised the importance of our Behaviour for Learning Strategy:

“Students’ personal development and well-being are outstanding as is their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. Students display excellent attitudes towards their learning in lessons, when undertaking homework and through participation in extra support sessions, including Saturday morning college.”

“The very positive relationships between all members of the college community also contribute to students outstanding personal development. Behaviour is excellent around the college and students have very positive attitudes.”

Pastoral Support

A well established Pastoral and Safeguarding team are available to support pupils. Personal well-being helps young people embrace change, feel positive about who they are and enjoy healthy, safe, responsible and fulfilled lives. At Selly Park the development of Emotional Health and Well-Being has always been a priority in ensuring our young people become successful learners, confident individuals and responsible citizens.

All pupils follow a programme of Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education throughout both Key Stages. The programme has been tailored specifically to the needs of our pupils and, following guidelines provided by the Department of Education, has the following key components:

- Personal, Economic and Financial Well-being.
- Health Education.
- Healthy Relationships
- Substance Use and Misuse.
- Prejudice, Bullying, Discrimination, Racism and Homophobia.
- Citizenship.

In addition, a wide range of activities across and beyond the curriculum ensure pupils gain the knowledge and skills to deal with issues they may face as they approach adulthood. For those pupils who may encounter problems as they move through the school, our programme of care, guidance and support was judged by OFSTED to be outstanding.

All Selly Park staff are responsible for the emotional health and well-being of the pupils.



'My experience at Selly Park has also taught me valuable life lessons that will help me throughout life.'

Former pupil





Learning Support

Special Education Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

A pupil has SEN if they have a learning difficulty or disability that requires special educational provision to be made for her, and if they have a significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of others of the same age (Code of Practice, 2015).

Selly Park aims to provide an accessible and inclusive curriculum for all pupils, including those with Special Education Needs and Disabilities. As a school, we ensure that pupils attend all lessons to receive high quality teaching. This will meet the needs of most pupils and when a pupil may require additional support, it is provided at a targeted and specialist level. This will involve your daughter receiving support from a teaching assistant or from an external agency.

Both the pupil with special educational needs and their parents play an integral part in the decision making process regarding their education and support. Parents are notified if their daughter is placed on the special educational needs register and they will receive ongoing updates regarding their daughter's progress. Selly Park follows the graduated approach to assess, plan, do and review. This is an ongoing process which monitors the impact and the progress your daughter is making.

Before pupils arrive in Year 7, Selly Park works very closely with your daughter's primary school to discuss the support they have received previously. When joining in Year 7, all pupils are tested in English and Maths to highlight any additional needs.

The SEND Department consists of a SENCo and four Teaching Assistants. The school follows the Code of Practice (2015) and the Local Offer. Please see the school website for Selly Park's Information Report, which provides more information on SEND.

The Role of the Form Tutor

The school recognises that it has a major responsibility for the personal, social, spiritual, moral and cultural development of pupils in its care. Each of these strands, are interwoven, into the wider curriculum.

As part of the Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education programme Form Tutors support all pupils in their form academically and pastorally.

Academic support consists of the following:

- Tutors meet their form group, twice a day.
- In Key Stage 3, Tutor Review sessions occur once a week to discuss work, solve problems, monitor coursework and homework and to follow a structured programme. In both Key Stage 3 and 4, the programme of study for PSHEE incorporates study skills, careers education and guidance, time management and economic well-being.
- Each pupil progress is individually tracked by a member of the Senior Leadership Team based on information received from subject teachers. It is the Form Tutors' responsibility to use this information when setting targets for pupils in their form.
- This monitoring is rigorous and ensures all pupils are kept on track and up-to-date with their work.

The main role of the Form Tutor is to provide pastoral support and guidance.

For example:

- Be a role model, have the ability to listen, show empathy, give advice on relationships.
- Build a relationship with pupils in the form.
- Set the mood for the day and expectations for the pupils.
- Be responsible for registration, attendance and punctuality.
- Offer advice on uniform.
- Deal with behaviour issues in the form.
- Promote anti-bullying.
- Monitoring pupils.



Working with Parents and Carers

We value the support of parents and carers and are aware that our success is due to the strong partnership which exists between parents, pupils and the college. In order to support this, we place great importance upon good communication between the school and our parents.

In addition to parents' evenings, routine letters home and a regularly updated website, Selly Park provides a variety of other means to keep parents informed and involved. These include a Key Stage 4 Introductory Evening, a Parents' Evening for Year 7 in the Autumn term to support the settling in process, and a Key Stage 4 Study Skills session to provide guidance to parents on how to help students succeed at GCSE. Each Parents' Evening will have a specific focus designed to support parents in understanding a variety of aspects of school life.

We invite parents to attend musical concerts, presentation award ceremonies and briefings prior to residential trips abroad. Our popular end of term newsletter gives parents a flavour of events and activities throughout the term. We often invite feedback from parents in a variety of ways and share outcomes of the feedback on the website. We have a dedicated parent liaison officer who visits and telephones parents as the need arises. We also contact parents on the first day of a pupil's absence. We consider our parental involvement to be highly effective and we have achieved the LPPA (Leading Parent Partnership Award) in recognition of the work we have done to strengthen Home-School Partnerships.

Extra opportunities at Selly Park

There is a wide variety of enrichment activities available at Selly Park. We offer an extensive programme of out of hours learning, including after school tutorials, Saturday revision club, Easter revision programmes and a daily homework club from 3pm to 5.30pm. We also offer a wide range of clubs and sporting activities. Students can choose from up to thirty sporting and outdoor activities which are on offer (see insert at the back of the prospectus for a detailed list).

Students are also offered a variety of other enrichment experiences, some of which are directly linked to their studies, while others offer opportunities to increase their knowledge and enjoyment of the Arts and travel. Good examples of these include field work, theatre visits, industry days, trips to France or Spain to help with MFL studies, museum visits and visits to other countries through our global links programme. Students enjoy and appreciate these additional opportunities as this OFSTED quote highlights:

"Of particular note is considerable additional time staff give to help pupils. Consequently, relationships between staff and students are excellent. Students genuinely appreciate the effort their teachers put in to help them, both personally and academically."

The college supports and develops Gifted and Talented Students and ensures their needs are met both within the classroom and through extra-curricular activities.



Selly Park

Emergency Contact

In order to ensure that parents can be contacted urgently in the event of illness or accident, the school maintains a record of emergency telephone numbers, which is regularly updated.

Parents are requested to provide the school with changes in their contact details.

In the event of an emergency situation at home about which pupils in school need to be contacted please phone Reception on **0121 472 1238** in the first instance.



Selly Park Technology College
5 Selly Park Road, Selly Park, Birmingham, B29 7PH
☎ 0121 472 1238 ☎ 0121 415 2799
✉ enquiry@sellyprk.bham.sch.uk
🌐 www.sellyprk.bham.sch.uk
Head Teacher: Mrs L Darwood Bsc PGCE MEd

Scan me with



a smartphone

