

# WELCOME TO ERCALL WOOD

## COLLEGE INFORMATION

Address:

GOLF LINKS LANE  
WELLINGTON  
TELFORD  
SHROPSHIRE  
TF1 2DT

Telephone: 01952 - 387300  
Fax: 01952 - 387301  
E-Mail [admin@admin.ercall-online.co.uk](mailto:admin@admin.ercall-online.co.uk)  
Website [www.ercall-online.co.uk](http://www.ercall-online.co.uk)

Type of school:

A DfES DESIGNATED SPECIALIST TECHNOLOGY COLLEGE with VOCATIONAL STATUS

A Foundation School

Leading Edge

Number of Year 7 places available at the College in September 2008:

180

Headteacher:

Ms. Kathryn Owen-Reece B. Mus. (Hons), LTCL, NPQH

Chair of Governors:

Mr K. Wagstaffe

Clerk to the Governing Board:

Mrs F. Barnett

c/o Ercall Wood Technology College

## THE ETHOS OF ERCALL WOOD

The College believes that all students should enjoy equal access to a full range of educational opportunity during the compulsory years of schooling.

We believe that our students should:

- develop their talents and abilities to the full,
- appreciate the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life,
- develop lively, enquiring minds and the ability to argue rationally,
- acquire the self-discipline to apply themselves to tasks,
- understand other people and respect their beliefs and their ways of life.

We promote an ethos of “*excellence through challenge and initiative*” and endeavour to meet this maxim in all aspects of college life.

Relationships are based on mutual respect and care for one another. Within this supportive framework our students are encouraged to work together positively and co-operatively.

We place a strong emphasis on achievements and success.

A clear disciplinary structure is in place and understood by all. We expect good behaviour of our students but where sanctions are necessary we involve parents at an early stage. Individual guidance is a key feature of our approach.

Students know that bullying is unacceptable. At Ercall Wood students are encouraged to report any incidents they see and so such incidents are rare.

We have an elected Student Council that meets regularly with senior staff.

## **SPECIALIST TECHNOLOGY COLLEGE WITH VOCATIONAL STATUS**

Ercall Wood is unique in Telford in being designated as both a Technology and Vocational Education College.

These are Government initiatives to promote high standards in Science, Maths, Design & Technology and Information Technology, and also provide a broad curriculum at Key Stage 4. This requires the College to meet demanding targets for raising achievement within a four-year development plan.

The College has raised £100,000 worth of sponsorship and has been awarded grants for 10 consecutive years totalling over £900,000, for investment in these specialist areas and in I.T. across the curriculum. We were granted phase III TC Status (2001-03) in December 2000 and enjoyed three further years of additional investment.

Parents will note the high level of provision in I.C.T. and the distinctive nature of our curriculum which aims to prepare pupils for life in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

All subject areas benefit from investment in I.T. and our cross curricular links and strong partnerships with local industry enable us to offer a curriculum and ethos that drives pupils to higher achievement and stimulates their learning.

We are immensely proud of our Technology & Vocation College Status and the progress we have made under this scheme. Parents wishing to know more should discuss the benefits of our unique status with the Headteacher or any member of staff or Governing Body.

## **OFSTED INSPECTION**

The College has been subject to the OFSTED Inspection process on three occasions in recent years. A full inspection in 1996 confirmed that the college was ‘*a good school with very good features*’. A short inspection in September 2000 noted “*Ercall Wood Technology College is a very effective school*”, and our most recent inspection, in March 2006, made the following observations:

## **Achievement and Standards**

- Pupils' achievement is good overall.
- Pupils attain higher than average results in art and design; design and technology; ICT and English Language.
- All pupils make good progress.

## **Overall effectiveness of the school**

- Ercall Wood is an effective school with exceptional features in some aspects of the provision.
- From when pupils enter to when they leave, the school adds very high additional value to their education and their achievements are good.
- Good teaching, a broad curriculum and effective structures for support and guidance all contribute to pupils' good personal development and progress.
- The senior management team is strong under the effective and visionary leadership of the headteacher.

## **Personal development and well being**

- Pupils enjoy coming to school and have positive attitudes to learning.
- Pupils show practical consideration for their own and others' safety.
- Pupils say that they feel secure at school.
- Pupils of all ages get on very well with each other as they eat lunch and play games.

## **Leadership and management**

- Leadership and management are good and the school provides good value for money.
- These qualities are transmitted well to pupils who value their education.
- Senior staff strongly promote equality of opportunity amongst both pupils and staff.

A copy of the inspection report is available from the College. It can also be obtained from the OFSTED web site.

**The College was named as *“particularly successful school”* by Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Schools in his annual report, laid before Parliament in February 2002.**

In 2003 Charles Clarke, Secretary of State for Education and Skills, recently singled out the College as one of the best in the country. He said:

***“We applaud specialist schools with exceptional results. Ercall Wood Technology College has key stage three results which put it into the top one percent of all secondary schools based on student progress”.***

***“It is also in the top five percent for adding value at key stage four. This is excellent”.***

## **PARENTAL CONSULTATION**

Ercall Wood Technology College aims to foster good relationships with all parents. A variety of target-setting days are a regular part of the college year. They include:

- An introductory evening for all parents of students due to transfer from primary to secondary school.
- A Year 7 evening with tutors and senior staff at the end of their first term at the College.
- Target-setting days for each year group to enable parents to meet and discuss students' progress.
- Presentation Evenings for each Year group to reward the wide range of student achievements.
- An Open Week to provide parents with the opportunity to see examples of students' work.
- Open Evenings for parents who wish to gain a greater understanding of the work undertaken by students in particular subjects.
- A GCSE Evening for parents whose children are starting their GCSE courses.

In addition, parents are welcome to contact the Head, Deputy Heads or Pupil Progress Manager at any time in order to discuss their child's progress.

Parents and members of the public have the right of access to any of the following documents:

- The LA statement of Curriculum policy which the College Governors support.
- Any statutory instruments sent to the college by the Department for Education and Skills, alternatively, these are available from the DCFS at Elizabeth House, York Road, London, SE1 7PH.
- Any published OFSTED reports that refer directly to the college.
- Any schemes of work used by the teachers in the College.
- Any syllabus followed.
- A full copy of the arrangements for the consideration of complaints about the College curriculum made by the College governors and approved by the Secretary of State under Section 23 of the Education Reform Act.
- The College prospectus.
- The Governing Body's Annual Report.

Please contact the main College office for further information on any of the above items.

## **STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS**

Ercall Wood is committed to the integration and education of students with a variety of special educational needs.

The College has provision for children with specific learning difficulties, notably dyslexia.

A number of students with statements describing other learning difficulties are also provided for. These include children with moderate learning difficulties, children with visual impairment, hearing impairment, Autistic spectrum disorder and Attention Deficit Disorder. In total the College is staffed for 84 students with statements of educational needs, (with minor variations year by year).

The staffing for the extra tuition and support for statemented children is financed by the Local Authority. In addition, the College provides further funding to meet the needs of students with special needs but without statements. All learning support teaching staff have appropriate further qualifications.

The College acknowledges that many children without the necessity of statements also have learning difficulties and need appropriate help. This may range from a student requiring a small amount of tuition for a spelling or handwriting problem to a student needing regular intensive help in a small group, or by the College providing an extra teacher or a teaching assistant to work alongside the subject specialist. The College has 13 special needs teaching assistants employed to assist students with special education needs.

Ercall Wood Technology College believes that in order to achieve success, all students with special educational needs require time, specific forms of support, carefully structured teaching programmes and in some cases the use of alternative means of communication. The majority of students require work to be suitably presented and differentiated to match their need. The most common factor is for access to the curriculum to be facilitated by whatever means necessary to ensure that success is achieved.

Much of the College's success with students with special educational needs is due to close co-operation between parents and teachers. A member of the Learning Support Department is always available to discuss any aspect of a student's education.

Ercall Wood Technology College is the only mainstream state school to be given membership of CReSTeD (Council for the Registration of Schools Teaching Dyslexic Pupils).

A copy of the College's special educational needs policy is available on request.

## **ACCESSIBILITY FOR PUPILS WITH DISABILITIES**

Ercall Wood has successfully integrated many children with a variety of special educational needs over a long period of time. This has included visually impaired children using Braille, children with severe hearing impairment, and children with a whole range of difficulties. The school's willingness to integrate all children with disabilities is reflected in the high number of statemented children attending the College through parental choice. More detailed information can be obtained through our accessibility plan.

Improving access is a matter of planned improvements in addition to reasonable adjustments, all new builds have accessibility in line with current regulations, however with our constraints of our existing buildings there is limited opportunity to make the school fully accessible but should a need present itself we would investigate how that need could be fulfilled.

## **PASTORAL MANAGERS**

Ercall Wood is proud of its pastoral success. The Pastoral Managers work closely with the Pupil Progress Manager to monitor student achievement and progress and be able to quickly identify any potential problems.

## **ABLE STUDENT POLICY**

Ercall Wood's policy of testing students at the beginning of Year 7 identifies able students and Heads of Department are also required to identify able students on a subject specific basis. Each department then differentiates work so that able students are extended and motivated in all subjects. Able students in Years 8 and 9 follow a specific series of curriculum extension modules for 1 - 2 hours a week to develop their research, ICT and communication skills. Early entry for GCSE examinations is possible

and the opportunity to take extra GCSEs is offered to students who will benefit. Ex-students of Ercall Wood attend most of the traditional and new universities including Oxford and Cambridge.

Our Gifted and Talented pupils are identified through a range of strategies including statistical, teacher nomination and parent survey. All teachers are aware of this information to inform their planning and ensure challenge in lessons is appropriate.

These pupils will be invited to a range of enrichment activities arranged through the Excellence Cluster as and when they arise. Previous examples include:

- Maths and English enrichment at the Ice Zone
- Johnny Ball Maths Lecture
- Science Visit to RAF Cosford
- Faulkes Telescope Project

We have a full time G&T mentor who has responsibility for the mentoring and coaching of these pupils, and their primary role is to ensure G&T pupils are monitored carefully so they reach their full potential.

## **BEHAVIOUR POLICY**

Ercall Wood has a very successful behaviour policy which is explained in a separate information sheet and is also available from the College. Each new student will receive a copy when they join the College. This policy includes a *"home/college contract"*. This document sets out clearly the College, student and parent responsibilities in the provision of education at Ercall Wood Technology College.

## **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

The college is not affiliated with a particular religious organisation. Religious education is taught to all students as a separate subject. It is offered to all students as a GCSE subject. Any parents wishing to exercise their rights in legislation to their child's attendance at religious worship or instruction should contact the College.

## **SEX EDUCATION**

The College follows the DCSF guidelines on sex education which is taught through discrete elements of the science curriculum and also within the Personal and Social Education syllabus. This deals with both physiological aspects and the appropriate moral framework. The College's sex education policy is available, in College, to parents on request.

## **ATTENDANCE**

Student attendance is extremely important. Students are expected to be punctual to College and to attend regularly. Attendance is carefully monitored each week and parents are asked to produce a letter or to telephone the College to explain any absence.

## **COLLEGE POLICIES**

### **Commendations and Merits**

We believe that the development of self-discipline requires encouragement and support. We are proud of our system whereby students are awarded commendations or merits for good work, service to the community, outstanding personal achievement and success generally. We believe that only through reward and encouragement will students find self esteem and confidence in life.

### **Daily Report**

Students whose work or behaviour is persistently unsatisfactory may be placed on Daily Report by the Form Tutor, the Pastoral Managers or, in very serious cases, by the Headteacher. Parents are asked to inspect and sign the report each day.

### **Exclusion**

We have very few difficult problems. When we do, parents co-operate so that solutions are positive, forward looking and in the best interests of all concerned. In exceptional cases very serious offenders or persistent wrongdoers may be excluded from the College by the Headteacher. Parents will always be informed and are asked to come into College to discuss the situation.

If a parent does feel that an exclusion of his or her child is inappropriate, the parent has the right to make representation to the College governors.

### **If you have a complaint about College life**

Parents who have a concern about the curriculum are encouraged to discuss the matter with the Headteacher in the first instance. Any unresolved matters may be referred to the Governing Body. Parents should write to the Clerk of the Governing Body.

## EXAMINATION BOARDS 2008/09:

Exam Board	Syllabus Number	Syllabus Title	Exam Qualification
OCR	1910	Art & Design	GCSE
OCR	1954	Food Technology	GCSE
OCR	1972	Home Economics – Child Development	GCSE
OCR	1954	Design & Technology Food Technology	GCSE
OCR	1955	Design & technology - Graphics	GCSE
OCR	1958	Design & Technology Textiles	GCSE
OCR	1956	Design & Technology Resistant Materials	GCSE
OCR	1970	PE	GCSE
OCR	1971	PE (Games)	GCSE
OCR	3980	PE <b>Entry level</b>	-
OCR	6234	OCR Nationals ICT	GCSE
OCR	1031	RE (Short course – yr10)	GCSE
OCR	1931	RE (Long course)	GCSE
OCR	1988	Geography	GCSE
OCR	1493	Health & Social Care	VGCSE
OCR	1491	Applied Business	VGCSE
OCR	J630	21 <sup>st</sup> Century Science	GCSE
OCR	J631	21 <sup>st</sup> Century Applied Science (yr 11)	GCSE
OCR	J632	21 <sup>st</sup> century Additional applied Science	GCSE
OCR	J633	Biology	GCSE
OCR	J634	Chemistry	GCSE
OCR	J635	Physics	GCSE
OCR	3982	<b>Entry level Science</b>	-
AQA	3041 /6/2B	History “C” Schools History Project	GCSE
AQA	4302	Mathematics B Modular 2 tier	GCSE
AQA	4307	Maths B Modular	GCSE
AQA	3271	Music	GCSE
AQA	3702A	English Language	GCSE
AQA	3712A	English Literature	GCSE
AQA	3241	Drama	GCSE
AQA	3231	Performing Arts (Dance)	GCSE
Edexcel	1226C	French	GCSE
Edexcel	1231C	German	GCSE
Edexcel	1901	Urdu	GCSE
WJEC	0700	English	C of E
WJEC	0736	Mathematics	C of E
WJEC	741	Skills for Llife	C of E
OCR	1924	Turkish	GCSE
AQA	3681	Panjabi	GCSE
OCR	1922	Persian	GCSE

## DESTINATIONS

DESTINATIONS OF PUPILS LEAVING ERCALL WOOD AT THE  
END OF YEAR 11 - 2006 and 2007:

2006		
	Number	%
Continuing in education	130	76.9
E2E and other non-employed training	12	7.1
Full-Time Employment	18	10.7
Part-Time Employment	2	1.2
Voluntary and Personal Development Activities	0	0.0
Unemployed	5	3.0
Not Active	0	0.0
Moved out of Contact	1	0.6
No contact/Refused response	1	0.6
TOTAL	169	

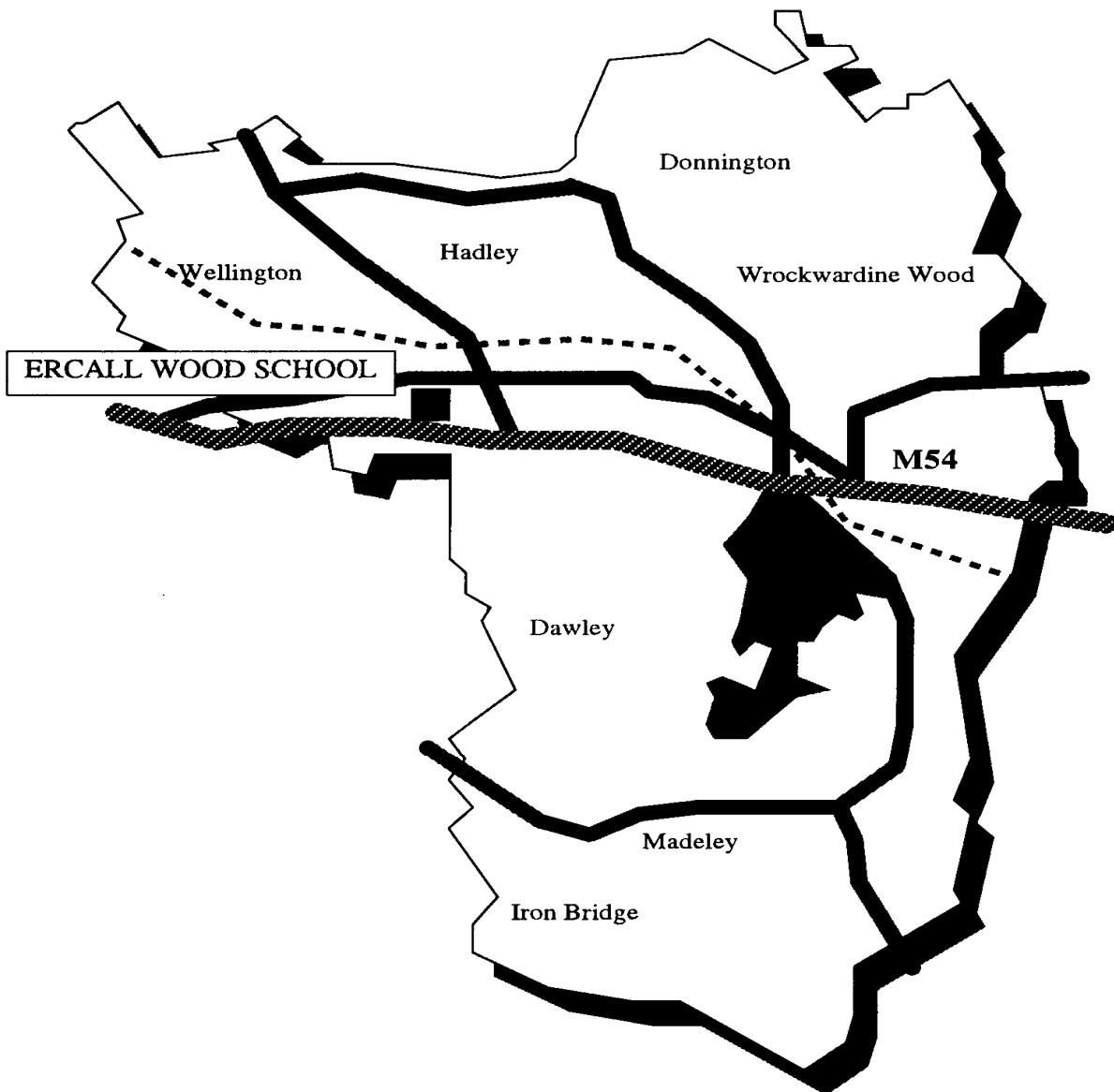
2007		
	Number	%
Continuing in education	137	78.7
E2E and other non-employed training	9	5.2
Full-Time Employment	8	4.6
Part-Time Employment	0	0
Voluntary and Personal Development Activities	0	0
Unemployed	6	3.4
Not Active	2	1.1
Moved out of Contact	3	1.7
No contact/Refused response	9	5.2
TOTAL	174	

## CAREERS EDUCATION AND GUIDANCE

In order to enable students to make informed and appropriate decisions about courses, training and careers, and to help students make successful transitions from one stage to the next Ercall Wood has a policy for Careers Education and Guidance which entitles every student to:-

- a varied programme of careers education in all years.
- access to impartial advice from Shropshire's Careers Service/Connexions.
- access to up-to-date careers information in a range of media.
- the opportunity to work with a Business Mentor to develop knowledge of the world of work and skills of self-presentation.
- one week of work experience (we were the first school in Shropshire to gain the national Excellence in Work Experience award).

## HOW TO FIND US



Many of our students walk to college.

The only bus service is:

**Arriva 786.**

Telford Town Centre Bus Station → Malinslee → Concorde → Dawley Bank → The Rock → Bell Pit Road → Newcastle Motor Round-a-bout → arriving at college about 8.45am and are collected for home at 3.15pm.

For any further information please contact Telford Travel Link on 01952 200005 or 0870 6082608.