



Oxford Sixth Form College

A NORD ANGLIA EDUCATION SCHOOL

**Provision for students
with particular religious,
dietary, language or
cultural needs policy**

Revised June 2024

Review date June 2025

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Aims

The aims of this policy are to:

- Contribute good practice in regard to religious, dietary, cultural and language diversity
- Promote harmony and understanding amongst students of different cultural and religious backgrounds
- Enable the College to provide practical and sensitive support to students in regard to religious observance, cultural norms, dietary requirements and language assistance where English is not a student's first language.

Religion

The College embraces and celebrates all religions and denominations and makes practical provision for students to observe their religion during their stay. Students are able to engage in voluntary individual prayer, but it should not compromise the College's educational aims, and their own or other students' learning and development. Quiet rooms for students to pray are available in each building where space allows. Where space is not on-site students will be permitted reasonable time to facilitate this as long as this does not compromise their curriculum obligations.

Food in Boarding Houses

The College offers both meat and vegetarian options to all students. We will also ensure that food is correctly identified to enable students and staff to identify food that is unacceptable to them for religious, health or cultural reasons.

The College adheres to H&S regulations regarding kitchen hygiene, and food preparation and storage, and hygiene. This includes colour coded washable chopping boards, and use of suitable utensils.

Student meals are cooked off-site in a fully controlled and equipped catering kitchen and brought into the building in hot trollies. The staff are trained to ensure that the food remains and is served at the correct temperature and in hygienic conditions.

'Passport to Cook'

The College will also teach students about food hygiene to include colour coded chopping boards, sell/use by dates, labelling of food in fridge/freezer, and how to best use the equipment and utensils. Some students are experienced at cooking and know their way around a kitchen, others not so much. Support and assistance will be offered by staff.

Students with specific dietary needs

The College will cater for any student with specific dietary needs, for example those students with allergies or intolerances to specific foods. Once a specific need has been identified, the College will arrange for the individual concerned to meet the Head of House to discuss their dietary needs and make appropriate arrangements.

Cultural Diversity

The College is proud of the wide cultural diversity of its students and takes steps to ensure that cultural differences are respected. It recognises the norms and customs associated with cultures and will ensure that students can observe and retain them wherever practicable during their time at the College. The College, on occasion, will host various cultural events to raise awareness and understanding of cultural diversity.

The catering staff will also work with students and provide specific provision, if required, during, for example Ramadan, or other religious festival.

Language Support

The College expects English to be spoken in communal areas, the classroom, and the boarding facility. However, the College offers mother tongue language consultation during term time for a variety of different languages depending on numbers involved and will also where possible, provide translators for visiting parents. Where necessary the College provides additional English support as part of the regular curriculum.