Walsall College

Why do we need to know your personal information?

Bringing talent to life...

The Information Age

It seems like wherever you go these days people want to know everything about you. How old are you? What religion are you? Are you a man or a woman? What's your ethnic background? Do you have a disability? Sometimes it can feel like organisations are being really nosey and you might be unhappy sharing your personal details.

What's it got to do with us?

At Walsall College we ask you for this information when you apply to us, while you are studying with us or if you work for us. You are probably wondering why we are asking for all of these personal details:

- The information tells us what, if any, support you might need during your time at Walsall College
- It helps us to use our money, staff and equipment to provide the best services and support we can for you
- It tells us if certain groups of people are not using our services and allows us to make sure these groups are aware of what we offer and that they get the support they need.

More information = better support and services.

Why do we need to know?

We hear stories all the time about people being treated unfairly. The Equality Act 2010 states that no organisation can treat a person unfairly because of any of the following:

- Age
- Race
- Religion
- Gender
- Sexuality
- Gender Reassignment
- Disability
- Marital Status
- Pregnancy/Maternity

This means that the information you give us will be used to ensure that barriers to learning will be minimal. In fact giving us this information allows us to make sure that all people are treated fairly. Usually when we use the information your name will not even be attached to it so we won't know it relates to you!

We support!

Is my information safe and respected?

You may worry that the information that you give us is not safe and that other people will be able to get their hands on it. There are very strict laws on how we deal with the information you give us and we are not allowed to share it with anyone without your permission. Of course, if you don't feel totally comfortable we will respect your right to refuse providing the information. We would really like it if you came and talked to us about your worries first though.

Your information is safe with us!

Can my information really help?

The information you give us might help us to identify particular groups of people who may not be accessing the College or who may be doing less well than others. Once we have identified any gaps, we can find out the reasons and take action to close them. For example, if we have a larger number of learners who have a disability and need help with written work, we might decide that we need to offer more English classes or individual one-to-one support. We might also need to offer more support in the classroom or provide special software. All of the information you give allows us to make these decisions so that when you arrive at college you can be confident that your individual needs will be met and you have the best chance of achieving your best.

Yes, we need your help to shape our College!

Will it make a difference?

Although giving out all of this personal information might feel a bit uncomfortable, you are really making a difference by telling us about yourself. We need to know who our students/staff are so that we can provide the best service possible. We rely on this information to make sure everyone has the best chance of accessing learning and achieving their goals. If you don't tell us, we can't know how best to help you.

Yes, help us to help you!

Walsall College

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