

TRAVEL INFORMATION FOR FIRST YEAR STUDENTS

It is important that you read the below information to understand the options for arrival to the college. It is vitally important that the Admissions know your travel arrangements prior to arrival therefore once your travel plans are confirmed please complete and submit the [travel form](#) provided with the enrolment forms. For students who require a visa to study in the UK please do not make your travel arrangements until your visa has been granted. We have a small group of students arriving on **Tuesday 14th August 2018** (you will have been notified by the Admissions team if you are part of this group) **All other students arrive on Monday 27th August 2018.**

EAL students arriving on Tuesday 14th August 2018

The college will arrange travel from London Heathrow to the College on Tuesday 14th August 2018. The meeting point will be **Terminal 3 at London Heathrow airport**. College Staff will be at **Terminal 3 from 10:00hrs** therefore, when you arrive please make your way to Terminal 3 where College staff will be waiting for you by the Information desk. If you arrive at an alternative terminal, free bus transport is provided between terminals so please follow the signs or ask a member of the airport staff and make your way to Terminal 3. If you will be arriving at Gatwick airport you will need to book a National Express bus to bring you to Heathrow airport. This will need to be booked in advance and will cost approx. £25. Where possible if you can book flights that arrive at Heathrow before 18:00hrs that would be most helpful. If this is not possible please do not worry our staff will wait until all students have arrived. If you have any problems on arrival please go to an information desk or speak to a member of airport staff.

All other Students arriving Monday 27th August 2018

ARRIVING BY AIR

You are advised to arrive at **London Heathrow** as the college will arrange transport from this airport to the College on Monday 27th August as follows:

Coaches Depart: 12.00 hrs
15.00 hrs
18.00 hrs

From: **Arrivals Lounge - Terminal 3 - Heathrow**

At Heathrow Terminal 3

Members of the College staff together with a number of students will be at **Terminal 3 Arrivals Lounge** from **10:00-18:00 hrs** to greet and assist students. The **“Meeting Point”** is situated *opposite* the **Information Desk**. Look out for their ‘Atlantic College’ signs - they will be wearing college sweatshirts. Students arriving earlier than 10.00 hrs - go to Terminal 3 - await the arrival of College staff. Students arriving later than 18:00hrs -go to Terminal 3 and you will be met by college staff and escorted to the college

Any Problems? – go to an ‘Information Desk’
– ask the airport staff to call Atlantic College staff representative at Terminal 3 Arrivals
– explain the problem

Students arriving at *other* terminals (1, 2, 4 & 5) and at Gatwick should make their way to *MEET COLLEGE STAFF* at **Terminal 3 Arrivals Lounge, Heathrow**. There is free transport between the terminals at Heathrow.

Students arriving at **Gatwick** should take the National Express coach to Heathrow (a 75 minute journey). You can buy tickets from the National Express Ticket Office, from the coach driver or in advance by booking online http://www.nationalexpress.com/wherewego/airports/index_v1.aspx (approx. £25).

The cost of the Heathrow-Atlantic College Coach will be approx. £20. The exact price will depend on numbers using the service and will be collected by the Accounts Office from students shortly after their arrival at the College.

Students who are arriving before 27 August 2017 and/or are not arriving by air, but who will be in or near London on that date, are also invited to join the coaches departing from Heathrow Terminal 3. Please ensure that you complete the appropriate part of the Travel Questionnaire. Unfortunately we cannot offer seats to parents.

The nearest airport to the College is Cardiff-Wales (12kms). There are few direct long distance flights to the airport and KLM Dutch Airlines have a number of connecting flights through Amsterdam Schipol Airport. The college does not provide transport to college from any other airports.

ARRIVING BY RAIL

The nearest railway station (15 km) is **BRIDGEND**. This is on the London (Paddington Station) to Swansea line. It is one stop after CARDIFF. There is a train every hour on Sundays and twice hourly on week days. The journey time London-Bridgend is 2 hours 25 minutes. From Bridgend Railway Station, Dragon taxis (contact no 01656 655766) are available to the College (approx. £22).

Alternatively, students may take the Railair Coachlink (approx. £15) (advance booking from www.railair.com) which departs from Heathrow Central Station Bus Station to READING railway station where they can join the London – Bridgend train. Passengers from Gatwick must make their way to Heathrow to join this service.

ARRIVING BY COACH

Students arriving at Gatwick and Heathrow and NOT taking the college coaches may take a National Express coach direct to Bridgend Sarn Services (approx. 18km away, to the north of Bridgend). Services depart regularly from and Heathrow and Gatwick airports and cost approx. £45. Tickets are best booked in advance via <http://coach.nationalexpress.com> A taxi will have to be taken from Sarn to the College. We recommend the local taxi company Dragon Taxis: Tel. 01656 655 766 (approx. £25).

ARRIVING BY CAR

By Road - from London and the East

Leave the M4 at Junction 33 turning left to proceed down dual carriage way for approx. 1.5 miles and take slip-road (Cardiff West and Airport)

- take the A48 towards Cowbridge/ Bridgend;
- from near Cowbridge, the College is sign-posted;
- continue on the A48 to the hilltop of Pentre Meyrick, the college is signposted, turn left and follow the road to Llantwit Major;
- at a large roundabout the route is sign-posted to the right;
- continue on the B4265 for approximately one mile;

- turn left at the staggered junction (sign-posted) and follow the narrow farm road;
- at the next T-junction turn left through the village of St Donats and enter the campus through the second set of gates on the right.

By Road - from the West

Leave the M4 at Junction 37 (Pyle), turning left down a dual carriageway and then right (3rd exit) at the roundabout

- keep on A48, signposted Cowbridge/Cardiff Wales Airport, until a roundabout with houses on all four corners, on the outskirts of Bridgend, take 3rd exit on B4265 towards Llantwit Major and Barry;
- pass through Ewenny, St Brides Major and Wick (ignore first right-hand sign to St Donats)
- two miles from Wick the College is sign-posted to the right at a staggered junction;
- follow the narrow farm road;
- at the next T-junction turn left through the village of St Donats and enter the campus through the second set of gates on the right.

General Travel Information

Students should take an overall view of the costs of their travel over the two-year course and compare prices between single and return fares, and between the comparative prices for return fares where the first journey starts in the UK, or elsewhere. When asking your local travel agent to give quotations, you should always ask for the price of a ticket purchased in the country of first departure

Academic Key Dates 2018-2019

Term I:	Students arrive:	Tuesday 14th August 2018 EAL Students arrive-You will have been notified by the admissions team if you are arriving on this date. Monday 27 August 2018 All non-EAL students can arrive at college from 1400 onwards (Heathrow Airport: buses pick-up from mid-day to 1800 hours). Mid-term break begins at 1400 on Friday 26 October and ends at 2215, Sunday 4 November. Students are not allowed extensions.
	Term ends:	Friday 7 December 2018 at 1700 (a night bus is provided at 2200 on 7 December for early Heathrow flights, and an early morning bus 0800 on Saturday 8 December.) All remaining students must vacate houses by 1100 on the 8 December. Students are not able to remain on campus over the holiday period.
Term II:	Students arrive:	Saturday 5 January 2019 Students can arrive at college from 1400 onwards (Heathrow Airport: buses pick-up between 1300 and 1800 hours) Spring break begins at 1400 on Friday 12 April and ends at 2215 on Monday 22 April. Students are not allowed extensions
	Term Ends:	Wednesday 12 June 2019 (a night bus is provided at 2200 on Wednesday 12 June for early Heathrow flights the following morning, and an early morning bus 0800 on Thursday 13 th June) All remaining students must vacate houses by 1100 on Thursday 13th June

Note: Students may stay on campus during Mid Term, Easter and Spring breaks but not during winter or summer breaks. Dates are not yet available for the academic year 2019-20.