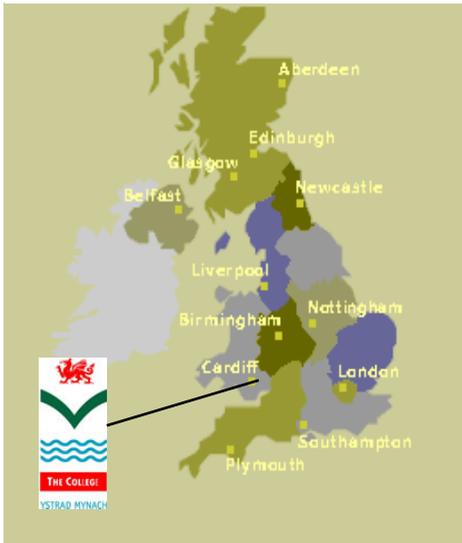


THE COLLEGE YSTRAD MYNACH

LOCATION



In the heart of South Wales, just a few miles from Cardiff in the south and the Brecon Beacons in the north, a warm Welsh welcome awaits students at The College Ystrad Mynach. The College has a proven track record of delivering high quality learning to the people and organisations of South Wales, the UK and countries throughout the world. The College, which is one of the fastest growing colleges in the country, is sited some 4 miles north of Caerphilly Castle, one of the great Medieval Castles of Western Europe and is conveniently placed in the centre of the thriving borough of Caerphilly.

The College was established in 1959 to meet the needs of the local coal industry. As heavy industry declined in South Wales in the late 1970s and early 1980s, the College responded to these changes by offering a much wider range of courses to meet the demands of the rapidly changing local economy. These new courses were designed to meet the needs of employers, in particular to satisfy the developing service industries in the area.

In recent years, The College has seen a substantial increase in the numbers of students enrolled on its courses with numbers exceeding 11,000 in 2007/08.

WHY CHOOSE THE COLLEGE

The College provides fantastic opportunities for all its students, with a growing number of International students every year, from countries all over the world. The College is committed to supporting students in gaining internationally recognised qualifications whilst living and studying in Wales.

Students study in a safe, friendly and supportive educational environment with highly qualified, experienced teachers and modern, outstanding facilities. College staff help students of all levels to follow their ambitions and maximise their ability to succeed. A dedicated team is on hand to help all International students fully integrate into the college and life in the UK.

Whether it is learning English, developing skills for the workplace or preparing to study at a university, The College can provide the right programme of study. The College Ystrad Mynach helps European and International students with different learning aims and objectives. A whole range of courses are available from GCSEs, A Levels or specific work-related vocational courses. Staff can also help students choose Higher Level Diplomas, Degree, Masters or Postgraduate levels.

Whatever students choose to study, staff are on hand to help and support them throughout their time at the college. International students are guided and supported throughout their studies by our dedicated International team, who are able to advise students on anything from application to accommodation.



CAMPUS AND FACILITIES

The campus at Ystrad Mynach provides outstanding facilities. It's a great place to access top class sports, beauty and catering services. The campus has fantastic learning support facilities to help you achieve the best results. These include:

- Library - The Learning Centre provides access to IT facilities, Learn Direct courses, on-line materials and a large selection of books, assignment packs, journals and newspapers across all curriculum areas. Learning Centre staff will assist you in selecting and using resources to support your studies
- IT Drop in Centre - computers for personal use and for study.
- Online courses run in partnership with Learn Direct, using all the latest modern equipment.
- English Language lessons to support students whose first language is not English.
- First class workshops, salons, kitchen and restaurant facilities enabling students to train in realistic working environments
- A fitness suite.
- Excellent student café and restaurant.
- Modern, well equipped classrooms and learning suites.
- A Student Union which represents the views of college students at various committees throughout the college.



ACCOMMODATION

HOST FAMILY

It is important for students to have a safe and comfortable place to live whilst studying, The College has friendly and supportive Host families who have been selected and approved by our International office. The College would strongly recommend that students use Host Family accommodation if it is their first time in the UK. Living with a Host Family allows students to have an insight into British family life and helps to improve their English at the same time.



Living with a family will help students settle in and adjust to their new life in the UK. Within the home students will be provided with a room, which as a minimum will consist of a bed, wardrobe and a study area. Breakfast and evening meals throughout the week will be provided, and all meals at the weekend. Small articles will be laundered with the household wash, heavier articles by arrangement. The International Office is available to help students to find accommodation.

RENTING A HOUSE, FLAT OR STUDIO

Staff in the International Office are able to provide students with contact details of local letting agencies who are able to find suitable self catering accommodation.



PLACES TO VISIT & THINGS TO DO

There are plenty of things to see and do within the local area.

There are plenty of shops, supermarkets and restaurants to choose from together with a lively nightlife in the city centre. There are several cinemas and bowling alleys where students can enjoy a night out with their friends.



There are numerous local tourist attractions to visit such as Caerphilly Castle, Cardiff Bay, Wales Millennium Centre and the peace, tranquillity and beautiful scenery in the Brecon Beacons.

Larger cities such as London are within easy travelling distance for additional places to visit and to see more famous tourist attractions.

Access to major cities

Cardiff	30 minutes
Swansea	1 hour
London	3 hours
Birmingham	2 hours
Liverpool	4 hours
Edinburgh	7 hours
Dublin	7 hours

