



Frequently Asked Questions



Additional Information for Civil Service Candidates

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ENTERING WELBECK

1. What is the entry requirement for Welbeck MoD Civil Service candidates?

- Welbeck MoD Civil Service candidates must be British Citizens (or hold dual nationality, one of which must be British).
- Minimum educational requirements are described in the Welbeck brochure or at <http://www.welbeck.mod.uk/>.

2. How do candidates apply to join Welbeck?

- Download application forms and tutor reference forms from www.desg.mod.uk, alternatively, phone 01225 449334 for paper copies.
- Completed application and reference forms must be returned by the closing date, 25th January 2008.
- Candidates will be given the opportunity to visit Welbeck. 30 students are taken at a time, with each prospective student welcome to bring 2 family members. The visit will include a presentation and a short interview. These visits are normally arranged between October and June.
- Following an initial sift, candidates will be invited to a Selection Board in Spring 2008.
- The final decision for Welbeck is dependent on the Selection Board's assessment, as well as achieving the required grades at GCSE or equivalent.

3. What form will the Selection Board take?

- A series of written, oral and practical tests, including a formal interview, to assess each candidate's ability against a range of skills and competences (including teamwork, communication and leadership).

4. If students have a disability which will make it difficult for them to join in with the sporting activities at Welbeck, will this prevent them from being accepted?

- No – adjustments can be made for students with disabilities.

5. Is it possible to transfer between Services after joining Welbeck?

- In exceptional circumstances, students may apply to transfer between Services. The final decision, however, will rest with the releasing and receiving Services and may also be subject to further selection and assessment criteria.

6. How are Welbeck places funded?

- Tuition at Welbeck is paid for by the MoD.
- Maintenance costs (student's board, lodging, clothing and services) are paid by both an MoD maintenance grant and a parental contribution;
- The level of the parental contribution is determined on the basis of disposable income after allowance has been made for other children, mortgage payments and other amounts normally accepted by the Inland Revenue. More information on the level of parental contribution can be obtained from the Welbeck bursar on 01509 891719.
- **Some or all of the MoD maintenance grant may be repayable in the event that the student does not complete their studies and / or continue to the Defence Technical Undergraduate Scheme (DTUS) and the DESG Graduate Scheme.**

7. Where is Welbeck?

- Welbeck is located in a newly built college at Woodhouse near Loughborough, approximately 12 miles north of Leicester and within easy reach of the M1, M42 and the national rail network. A map and more detailed instructions can be found in the Welbeck [brochure](#) or online [here](#).

ATTENDING WELBECK

8. Is wearing a uniform compulsory for all Welbeck students?

- Yes

9. How many students are at Welbeck at any time?

- 175 students enter Welbeck lower sixth each year.

10. What kind of individuals would benefit from attending Welbeck?

- Students who would particularly benefit from the Welbeck experience are those who are clearly focused on their career aspirations, with the personal skills and qualities that would allow them not only to settle into the residential environment but contribute positively to all aspects of Welbeck life.
- It would particularly attract those who are prepared to work hard, enjoy sport and make the very best of themselves and their opportunities – and who wish to work closely with the Armed Forces during their subsequent career.

11. What is the male / female ratio at Welbeck?

- The ratio is about one third female to two thirds male

12. What subjects are Welbeck students expected to study?

- All Welbeck students will study for at least 4 AS-levels in the Lower Sixth, followed by 3 A-levels in the Upper Sixth
- All would study Mathematics, and are strongly advised to study Physics.
- An enrichment programme that includes options in Leadership skills, modern languages, critical thinking and sports studies is also compulsory. Students also select three additional courses (details of these may be found on page 6 of the brochure).

13. What qualifications are Welbeck students expected to achieve?

- Students are expected to achieve 4 AS levels during the Lower Sixth and 3 A levels during their time in the Upper Sixth.
- The College is a market leader in terms of its academic results, consistently ranking very highly in the sixth form college league tables.
- All students are expected to meet their academic targets and fulfil their academic potential.

14. Are new entrants without previous boarding school experience likely to find it hard to fit in?

- No. Welbeck students come from a wide range of social and educational backgrounds with the majority tending to be new to residential education, and every effort is made to support their transition to a new lifestyle.
- Each student enters an induction programme on arrival. As part of this programme, selected members of the Upper Sixth are tasked and trained especially to look after new entrants, helping them to settle in quickly during their first few weeks at the College.

15. Do all students have to board or can they attend as day pupils?

- All students are expected to board, in order to gain the most benefit from the Welbeck experience. Any queries on this issue should be addressed directly to Welbeck.

16. Are Welbeck students allowed out of the college on evenings and weekends?

- Students would not normally be allowed to leave the school grounds on weekday evenings. They are expected to be involved with their prep until around 2100 hrs, followed by their choice of house activities.
- At weekends, Saturday mornings are devoted to lessons, and Saturday afternoons to various sporting activities. Students may leave the grounds for a few hours after this if they wish to go shopping, but are expected to return by 1800 hrs.
- Sometimes there may be organised trips to the cinema etc, always accompanied by a housemaster

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- Should a student wish to leave the grounds in order to attend a private function, they would be expected to apply for permission before making the necessary arrangements.

17. Does Welbeck offer a range of extra-curricular activities for students?

- The Welbeck programme of extra-curricular activities includes a heavy emphasis on sports and fitness, including outward bound activities such as rock climbing, dingy sailing and navigation. The weekly timetable includes Personal Development Training. In the Lower Sixth, this will include Self-Reliance and Leadership Training, and in the Upper Sixth, the timetable involves Leadership Development (see page 7 of the brochure for details).
- In addition, all Welbeck students join the Combined Cadet Force, and take part in regular military training activities, including a range of adventurous training pursuits. Students are also actively encouraged to take part in a wide range of other extra-curricular activities, ranging from debating, drama and website development to music, car restoration, art and a variety of additional sports (a full list may be found on page 7 of the brochure).

18. What are the living arrangements at Welbeck?

- Students live in one of Welbeck's five Boarding Houses, each of which accommodates 70 students in a range of single, two-person and three-person rooms.
- Each Boarding House has its own identity, overseen by qualified House Staff who manage the care and overall development of all students in their House. House staff live in self-contained accommodation attached to each house.
- Each room is en-suite and contains IT network points for private study.

19. What level of Pastoral care is available at Welbeck?

- On joining Welbeck, each student becomes a member of a tutor group for academic support
- All Welbeck teaching staff take part in supervisory duties during the working part of each evening, and may assist with College club activities in order to provide a varied range of extra-curricular activities for the students.
- The resident House Staff are assisted by a number of tutors (usually members of the academic staff).
- There are also a number of matrons and housekeepers, as well as a Medical Centre with a qualified nurse.

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20. Are different faiths and religions taken into account at Welbeck?

- Arrangements are made to accommodate all faiths at Welbeck and each College day usually begins with a brief service.

21. Do all Welbeck students need to join the Reserve Forces?

- All Welbeck students are expected to join the Combined Cadet Force (CCF), and take part in regular military training activities, including a range of adventurous training pursuits.

22. Can MoD Civil Service Welbeck students opt out of military activities?

- No. One of the main attractions of Welbeck is the opportunity it allows all students to work within and alongside the military. If this is not something a potential student wishes to do, then he or she would not be recommended to apply for a place at Welbeck.

23. Additional Sources of Information.

- Further information on Welbeck can be found in the Brochure and on the website: www.welbeck.mod.uk.