

Cookies Policy

What is a Cookie? A cookie is a small text file, downloaded onto a computer or other device (e.g. mobile phone), which enables the website to recognise that equipment and gives us information about how the website is being used. Cookies serve a number of useful functions such as analysing the traffic of a website or storing password information so you don't have to log-in each time e.g. when adding items to an online shopping basket. However, they also give rise to concerns about the protection of privacy, which is why they are now being regulated.

- **Which Cookies do we use on the College website?**

This website uses cookies for a number of purposes including:

Analytics / performance - Google Analytics for web statistics provided by Google Inc. The information generated by these cookies is used for the purpose of compiling reports about how our website is used by our visitors so that we can improve our service to you. Google will not associate your IP (Internet Protocol) address with any other data held by Google. The cookies collect information in an anonymous form, such as the number of visitors to the site, which countries visitors have come from, and which pages they visited. We do not collect or store any personal data about you.

Saving preferences – Allowing our website to remember session settings between page loads and visits.

Functionality – Used to facilitate member login to the website. Worcester College authentication system is provided by the University of Oxford.

By using this website you consent to the processing of data in the manner set out above.

- **Which External Cookies do we use?**

We link to Google Maps to show you how to reach the College, and Google Maps downloads a cookie which contains an ID and some preference values which enable it to function. It does not collect or store any personal data about you. Find out more in the Google Privacy Policy - <https://policies.google.com/privacy>.

- **What is the Legal Position on Cookies?**

In 2011, the Privacy and Electronic Communications (EC Directive) Regulations were amended to require that website operators obtain prior consent for the use of cookies. Consent must involve some form of communication where the individual knowingly indicates their acceptance of the cookie. Although the regulations envisage that consent may be signified through browser settings, it is thought that most browsers are not yet sophisticated enough to allow users to grant consent selectively.

The regulations provide an exemption from the requirement to obtain consent where the use of a cookie is 'strictly necessary' to provide a service requested by the user e.g. those used to remember goods a user wishes to buy or to meet essential security requirements. Our cookies are only used to identify individual sessions, and for us to monitor the effectiveness of our content so that we can improve the service we provide to you. We do not store any personal data.

If you would like to delete all cookies that are already stored on your computer, instructions are available on the All About Cookies website - <http://www.allaboutcookies.org/>. Please note that the information on All About Cookies is not part of our website and the College is not responsible for its content.