



# WOODBIDGE HIGH SCHOOL

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## Parent FAQs - Woodbridge Secondary Transition

### **What will they study?**

At Key Stage 3 (Years 7 to 9) students study the following subjects: English, Mathematics, Science, Technology, French or Spanish, German or Russian, History, Geography, Religious Education, Art, Music, Drama, Physical Education, ICT and Computing as well as Life Studies (personal, social, health, citizenship, enterprise and careers education). Students who have arrived at Woodbridge with lower than expected levels of literacy or numeracy will have additional tuition in these areas in place of the second language (German or Russian). Year 7 students have one period in the fortnight which they spend in assembly and with their form tutor.

### **Where can I get the uniform from?**

We have several local uniform and PE kit suppliers. Here is the link to our website page detailing these suppliers. We strongly urge you to put names in all of your child's uniform and PE kit.

<https://www.woodbridgehigh.co.uk/page/?title=Uniform+Suppliers&pid=66>

### **What if my child is not in a class with their friend?**

We have 300 students joining us in year 7, they are coming from 46 primary schools and will be split among 10 form classes. Students will be placed in a form with other children from their primary school but not necessarily their friends. We are advised on these placements by primary schools. Students are encouraged to build new relationships during their first few weeks with us and we will have a fun team building day at Lambourne End before half term to help them do that.

### **How can I best support my child through this transition?**

Children often pick up on the emotions from those closest to them. If you are visibly nervous this may increase their own nerves. Try and portray outward excitement and confidence (even if you don't feel like this inside). Be rest assured that we have your child's best interests at the heart of what we do. It is a transition year and many students need the whole year to settle in. This is completely normal. Familiarise yourself with the school as best as you can so you can answer any questions your child has and reach out to us if you want some support. Have a look at our website and familiarise yourselves with the

### **What will the home learning be like?**

All students at Woodbridge are expected to take part in a Home Learning programme. The amount of home learning set on a regular basis will be manageable. To achieve this, the school's website provides home learning guidelines that indicate the frequency with which home learning will be set for each subject. At the start of the year, all students will be provided with a student planner. This planner includes details of school procedures as well as study skills to support students in their home learning. Students must record in their planner brief details of each piece of home learning set and when it is due in. This provides an important link between home and school. We would ask that the planner is signed every week by parents and form tutors.

### **My child has some additional needs I am worried about how they will settle in.**

We get lots of information from primary schools regarding transition and have a fantastic inclusion department who are happy to speak with you about any additional needs your child may have. The bonus of being such a large school is we have a great range of subjects and support for student. Year 7 is a transition year and we will support students all the way through the year with the move from primary to secondary school.

**What extra-curricular activities are there?**

A wide range of activities and clubs are available, including: sport, music, drama, art, dance, science, language and geography. The library is open for students both before and after school and can be used for the completion of home learning.

**How much money will they need for lunch?**

The school uses a cashless catering system. Students entitled to free school meals will have their account automatically credited with money. All other students will have to credit their account using one of three methods: ParentPay (online payment), cheque payable to Harrisons or PayPoint in local shops.

**What happens if my child loses an item?**

We understand that children tend to lose things. Our lost property is located in Wynndale Admin Office. It is much easier to reunite children with lost items if they have names on them. Wynndale Admin Office also has a supply of spare uniform if your child comes to school and realises they have forgotten something.

**What happens if my child feels unwell at school?**

If your child is unwell at school they will attend the medical office. Our first aid-trained staff will assess them and they might contact you to pick them up or to update you, or they may be ok to return to lessons.

**How can I check what home learning is set?**

At Woodbridge we use a system called 'Show My Homework'. All home learning is logged on here. Students and parents each have a log in where they can check home learning that has been set.

**How do I contact the school?**

The form tutor is the best point of contact for you at school. For other enquiries you can use this form: <https://www.woodbridgehigh.co.uk/form/?pid=188&form=16>

**Will they need PE kit on their first day?**

No, the first day will be an induction day for year 7s only. They will not need specialist equipment.

**How will they find their way around?**

During the first few weeks students are given extra travel time between lessons and staff will be on hand to point them in the right direction. Our older students are also more than happy to help out.

**How will my child know where to go on the first day?**

On the first day all students should arrive at Wynndale Gate and join us in Wynndale Hall. There they will meet up with their form tutor and their form group before being welcomed to Woodbridge by Mr Hogan and Ms Moore and then going to their form room.

**What are the rules regarding mobile phones?**

The school recognises that some parents may wish their son / daughter to carry a mobile phone for personal safety reasons. This is permitted, but mobile phones and headphones must not be seen or heard in school. If a student is seen using a mobile phone or headphones in school, they will be confiscated and returned at the end of the day. Repeated use of mobile phones will result in a more serious sanction.

We recommend that it is best not to bring mobile phones and other valuable items into school. The school cannot take responsibility for the loss or theft of such items. It is also the case that young people using mobile phones in the street can be a target for thieves.

In the event of an emergency while a student is in school, parents can make contact via the school office on 020 8504 9618.

What does a typical day look like?

YEAR 7	
Time	Activity
8.40 – 8.55 am	Morning Registration or Assembly
8.55 – 9.55 am	Period 1
10.00 – 11.00 am	Period 2
11.00 – 11.15 am	Break
11.20 – 12.20pm	Period 3
12.20 – 1.00 pm	Lunch
1.05 – 2.05 pm	Period 4
2.10 -3.10 pm	Period 5
3.10pm	End of school day
3.15 – 4.15pm	Extra-Curricular Activities and Additional Lessons

**Will the lack of SATs impact them at school?**

*No, each year we have lots of students that come to us without this data so it is not new to us. We have our own assessment frameworks which you can read about on the school website. We will assess the students when they join us to give us a baseline to measure progress against as they continue their journey with us.*