



Frequently Asked Questions

Year 6 in to Year 7 Transition

Please see a selection of the questions asked following the Year 6 tutor meetings:

1. What extra - curricular activities are available?

At St. Wilfrid's we have many sports clubs such as netball, football etc. We also offer swimming after school. There are clubs in the Music and Performing Arts departments as well as in Science and Computing to name but a few. If the interest is there from students, the likelihood is that we can run the club. War Hammer is an example of how this has occurred over the last few years.

2. Are we allowed to bring books in to school to read at break times?

Yes, this is allowed and actively encouraged. We also have an extensive library that students can borrow books from.

3. What things do we need to have in our school bags?

Students need their pencil cases containing general equipment (pen, pencil, ruler, calculator etc) you will find a page in your planner listing all the equipment you need for the school day. They will also need their schoolbooks for that day. It is important that students get into the habit of preparing their bags the night before each school day ensuring that they have only the books/items that they need. If they have PE or cooking etc. they will need all appropriate kit/ingredients. students also need their planners every day.

4. Can we have phones?

Students can bring mobile phones to school as we realise that parents may wish their children to have them, to ensure safe journeys to and from school. Once at school however, phones must be switched off and kept in students' bags at all times. If phones are SEEN (even in a pocket), they will be confiscated until the end of day on the 1st occasion, and at the end of the week on the 2nd.

5. How long do we have for lunch/ where can we go for lunch/what can we eat/how do I pay for my lunch?

Food is fantastic at St. Wilfrid's, there are breakfast items available before school, including bacon, sausage, toast, cereal, pan au chocolate, croissants and fruit. At break, there are sausage rolls, steak bakes, sausage and bacon sandwiches, toast, fruit and a variety of cold sandwiches. Lunch includes a 'meal of the day', pasta, hot and cold sandwiches or salads. Drinks can be bought at all times or students can simply use the water fountain(s) to re-fill their own water bottles.

Our canteen works on a cashless system, which is pre-paid via online (see ParentPay on the school website) or by loading on accounts with cash on machines in school. **On the first day in September, students will need cash until they have had their fingers scanned on to the system**

6. Will we get a map of the school?

Student will be handed a map of school on the first day and will be given a tour of school using this map as part of the 'induction' when students arrive. Traditionally, getting lost is one of the main worries for new students. There is always someone to ask in school and by the end of the first week or two, all students will be familiar with their surroundings.

7. How long are the lessons?

Lessons are one hour each and there are 5 of them per day. Each day starts with 20 minutes in form tutor groups.

8. How many science lessons are there?

There are 3 Science lessons every week in Year 7 at St. Wilfrid's.

9. Is there certain teachers for each year group? Is there a head of year?

Each tutor group in Year 7 has their own Form Tutor (you can contact yours via the Teams page). Each separate year group has a different Head of Year (yours is Mr Everett). It is hoped that these staff members stay with you until the end of Year 11.

At Secondary school, subject specialists teach you different subjects so you will have different teachers for Mathematics, English, Religious Education etc.

10. Do we have school planners and when will we get them?

You will get your planner on your first day in school. You will need to make a contribution of £4 which your tutor will collect from you.

11. Are there any breaks/how long are the breaks?

There are two 30 minute breaks one at 11.10am which is break time and one at 12.40pm which is lunch for Year 7 students (although Tuesday break time is only 20 minutes). In the first few weeks, Year 7 students are permitted to access both these breaks slightly earlier than the rest of the school.

12. Are there any lessons where there are mixed year groups?

No, you will only be with Year 7 pupils in lessons

13. Will we be allowed water bottles?

Yes, there are water fountains in school where pupils can re- fill them up before school, at break and at lunch. We encourage recycling and have special bins for bottles too.

14. How often do we get homework?

We like to call it home learning and you will have it on a regular basis from all your subjects and to help spread the workload, particular days will be set by individual teachers in the first few weeks.

15. What will happen if you forget your planner?

Planners keep you really organised so always try to remember them! If you do leave your planner at home you will receive a temporary day planner.

16. What happens if I have a medical issue?

We have staff on site to look after you and they will contact your parents if necessary. If you have a long term medical issue school should be made aware and any access issues to any lessons can be considered and resolved.

17. What happens if you forget/don't do your homework?

Home learning is an integral part of secondary school life and it supports your classroom based learning. If you do not complete it, you will receive a C2, and a break detention in the first instance. If the issue(s) is not rectified this may move on to an after school detention.

18. When does school start and finish? When do I need to be on the school site?

You have to be in school before the gates close at 8.45am. Many buses arrive before this time and many students wait in the dining hall. School finishes at 3.10pm, although many extra-curricular activities begin at this time.

19. What happens if I am late?

This depends on why you are late, if it is to do with the school bus, you are simply allowed in. If it is for other reasons it can result in a C2.

20. Where do we keep all of our personal belongings/ P.E. kit.? What P.E. kit will I need?

We do not have lockers at St. Wilfrid's and so all belongings are kept with you at all times. If you have Food Tech, ingredients can usually be dropped into class when you arrive in school and cooking can be picked up at the end of the day.

21. Are there any reward systems in place for good work and behaviour?

Yes, you receive P2's for doing the right things and for effort and hard work. There is a weekly Head's breakfast as well as a HoY 'hot chocolate' meeting where successes are celebrated. There are prize draws at the end of terms for good attendance and good behavior.

22. Where can I buy uniform?

You can buy uniform for St. Wilfrid's from the following retailers:

Trutex (online)
Better and Bright (Castleford/Pontefract)
Jags of Normanton (Normanton)
Signature Retail (Pontefract)

All details can be found on our website along with the uniform policy www.st-wilfrids.bkcat.co.uk

23. Can I wear jewellery or make up?

Jewellery and make is not permitted. Students can however, wear a watch.

24. What time is my bus to school?

Details of all buses are available on the school website (or here <http://www.st-wilfrids.bkcat.co.uk/school/transport-bus-routes/>)

25. Should I be in uniform on the first day?

Yes, all pupils should be in full school uniform on the first day.

26. Should my parents come with me on the first day?

Parents are not expected to accompany their children on the first day, although some may be dropping them off in cars.

27. Where will our form room be?

On your first day you will be directed to the main hall. You will have a welcome assembly before being escorted to your form tutor room.

If you have any remaining un-answered questions, please watch the Year 6 Transition Update on the website or alternatively ask your form tutor via Teams.