



Transition 2020 – FAQs

How do I sort out uniform?

For now this is not a concern and we will make plans closer to the summer and let you know these with as much information as possible. For information on our uniform then use the following link <https://horbury.accordmat.org/uniform/>

Do you have to fasten your hair back for school?

No, although in some lessons (for example Science and Technology) you may be asked to fasten your hair back for safety reasons.

How many lessons do I have each day?

You will have six lessons a day. The first lesson will last for 30 minutes and will be with your form. The next five lessons will all last for an hour each.

What if I don't know where my next lesson is?

Do I get a map of the school? Don't worry about where your lessons are; there will always be a member of staff around to help you find your way and you will get a map of the school in your planner.

What subjects will I be taught?

You will have the following lessons each week in year 7; English, Maths, Science, History, Geography, French/Spanish, PE, Music, Drama, RE, ICT, Art, Design Technology and PSICHE.

What happens if I can't keep up with the pace of the work?

Who do I speak to? If you have any problems with your work then you can talk to your teacher, your form tutor or your Pastoral Year Leader.

What will the first day look like and how will I know where to go and who to see?

Your first day will have time at the start of the day when you will get to meet your new form tutor and form group. You will also get to go on a tour of the school, have your lunch and will also start your normal lessons.

Do I have homework to complete every night and how much work?

In Year 7 there is a specific timetable for each week so that students are set approximately 3 hours of homework per week across all of their subjects. Tasks are set that take approximately 30 minutes to complete. The homework you will get at secondary school will be explained to you and it will also be on Show My Homework so you can look at it online at home. We also have a homework club every day before and after school that you can attend where you can get help.

What happens if I don't have a computer/laptop or printer and I need to do my homework on a computer?

You can go to homework club before and after school. You will be able to use a computer and print your work off too.



Do I get a detention if I forget or lose my homework?

No, you do not get a detention if you forget or lose your homework, but it is important that you complete your homework as it will improve your understanding of the subject.

My child has special educational needs. How do I make sure Horbury Academy knows their needs?

If there are any extra detail that you wish to pass on to us about needs then please contact us using the email address: enquiries@horbury.accordmat.org and a member of our SEN team will then contact you directly.

What equipment do I need to bring for the first day?

A bag, pencil case, pen, pencil, ruler, rubber etc. and your PE Kit. You will be given a student planner and your timetable on your first day.

How are class groups arranged, who will I be with?

You will be assigned to a form group with a form tutor. Form groups are made up of groups of students from different primary schools and you will see this class at the start of every day for 30 minutes. Some of your subject classes are mixed and some are setted. Do not worry if you don't know anyone in a class, we will work really hard to ensure you make friends quickly.

What steps are taken to help the children bond and make new friends outside of their normal peer group?

We know how important this question is and we will do our very best to make sure we have steps in place! All form groups in year 7 include children from a range of primary schools so they can begin to form friendships from outside their existing peer group of friends. Activities are built into period 1 (form time) that help children bond and make friends outside of their normal peer group.

What will happen if I am late to school or late to lessons, will I be in trouble?

Punctuality and attendance are really important in helping you achieve at school. Senior Leadership will always be on the 'purple line' in the morning from 8.00am to welcome you into the Academy with a smile and a good morning! If you are late in the morning it will be a 30 minute detention the following day. Don't worry about being late to your lessons in the first week, you may get lost! The Senior Leadership Team and Pastoral Year Leaders will around in between lessons and they can help you find your way to lessons.

Who do I speak to in school if I'm worried, nervous or have any other concerns?

All members of staff in school are here to help but in the first instance you should speak to your Y7 Pastoral Year Leader (PYL), a member of the Senior Leadership or your form tutor. You can also go to Student Support for advice.

I am unhappy and need to talk to someone, what can I do?

Go to Student Support and ask to speak to your Pastoral Year Leader. If they are not available another member of staff will be able to help you.

What if I can't do the work when I get to secondary school?

If you have any problems with your work at secondary school then please speak to your teacher who will help you with your work.

Do we still have playtimes?

Where can I meet my friends? At secondary school you will have a break of 15 minutes in the morning and 30 minutes over lunch where you will have chance to meet your friends.



What if I'm not in the same lessons as my friends?

You will still be able to see your friends at break and lunch time. You will also have chance to make lots of new friends at secondary school.

Am I allowed my phone at high school?

You are allowed to bring you mobile phone to secondary school but your phone must be turned off and out of sight at all times (in your blazer or school bag) until you leave school at the end of the day.

How do I pay for my lunch? How do I select my lunch?

We operate a cashless system which means you will have an account where money can be put on via the internet. You can choose your lunch on the day and do not have to select which food you want for each day of the week. There is a wide variety of yummy food for you to choose from that is good value!

Where do I eat my lunch? Is there a quiet place to go?

There is a variety of places to eat your lunch; the restaurant, the canteen or in a seating area for packed lunches in our atrium. There are also quieter places to eat your lunch.

What clubs are on offer and how do I join them?

We have a wide variety of clubs on offer at secondary school. Some of these are sports clubs (like netball, football and archery) and some are linked to subjects (like STEM club, Young Voices and cooking club). When you are in year 7 you will get a booklet explaining which clubs are on offer and how you can join.

Will we get a transition day?

We certainly hope so, yes!! We would love to see you for a transition day and start to get to know you. However, we need to wait to see what the government guidance says before we can arrange a transition day. If we return before the summer we will aim to still hold transition in the academy. If not we will be in touch directly with as much information as possible.

Will we be able to meet our form teachers before September?

Unfortunately you will probably not be able to meet your new form tutor before September.

When will we find out which form I am in?

You will find out which form you are in via a separate letter in July.

Where do I go on the first day?

On the first day come to the front of school and there will be lots of members of staff ready to show you where to go. Don't worry!

How busy is high school?

Don't worry about this! Even though secondary school has more students than your primary school it isn't as busy as you think. There is a one way system to help you move around safely, there are lots of spaces for you at break and lunchtime and year 7 even have lunch by themselves so there is lots of space.

I am worried about bullying, should I be?

No. As an Academy we aim to create an atmosphere where all staff and pupils feel safe, where no individual or group feels threatened and where members of the Academy community feel valued. We work hard to make sure the whole school community (pupils, staff, parents, governors and neighbours of the Academy) have a shared understanding of what bullying is. We have a clear procedure for reporting, investigating and stamping out bullying. To make it clear, bullying will not be tolerated!