



Year 6 Transition - Frequently Asked Questions

What does my child need to bring to school on their first day at St John's? Your child's first day at St John's will be **Tuesday, 7 September 2021**. Your child should bring a bag to school that is big enough to hold books, folders, a packed lunch and water bottle (if necessary) and all equipment. All students need to have the following equipment with them:

- Clear plastic pencil case
- Pencil sharpener
- Scientific calculator
- 30cm ruler
- 2 black pens
- Compass with pencil
- 2 pencils
- 360 protractor
- Rubber
- 3 highlighters
- Whiteboard pen
- Whiteboard rubber
- Glue stick

All equipment can be purchased from school at a total cost of **£14.50**. **Please contact the Finance Office before the end of July to make your payment if you wish to purchase a pack.**

Where do Year 7 students need to go when they arrive at school on the first day?

Students need to meet outside the Main Reception at the front of school where they will be met by pastoral tutors who will escort them to their classrooms. If you are travelling by car, please do not enter the school site as our school buses will be arriving. Instead, please drop your child off at a convenient point on Woodhouse Lane so that they can walk the remaining distance.

Will my child be able to get breakfast at school during the term? Cereal bars, fruit and toast will be available to buy and we will explain the systems to the children when they join us in September.

What happens at break-times and lunchtimes?

Assuming that all COVID restrictions are removed, we will be continuing to operate a staggered break-time and lunchtime system. This will mean that Year 7 students will have limited contact with other year groups at these times. Our catering provision includes a wide range of both hot and cold options. Some of the menu options we provide are listed below:

- Roast dinner (1 day)
- Fish & Chips (1 day)
- Lasagne
- Chilli Pots
- Pasta Pots
- Curry Pots
- Meat wraps
- Vegetarian options
- Noodle boxes
- Selection of Sandwiches and Paninis

How do I put money onto my child's account so that they can buy food at lunchtime?

Parents/carers will be able to add money to their child's account using the ParentPay system. Login details will be provided at an appropriate time and St John's Finance Department will be in contact with you to provide details on how to set up your account.

My child is anxious about starting St John's. Who can my child talk to for help and support?

The first point of contact is your child's Pastoral Tutor who is here to support your child and help them to settle into St John's. Your child's tutor will meet your child every day for registration and for a pastoral lesson on Tuesdays. Other staff who are available to support your child include:

Mrs Miller (Head of Year 7) Miss Wilkinson (Transition Coordinator) Mrs Kreczak (SENDCO) Mrs Usher (Welfare Co-ordinator)

To find out more about these individuals and other key people in St John's, please visit our [school website](#)

(Menu -> Our School -> Transition)

Does my child need to bring all their books and PE kit to school every day?

Your child needs to bring the books and equipment that they need for the day's lessons. On the first day at St John's, your child will be given a timetable so each day they will know the books and equipment that they will need to bring to school. We strongly recommend that your child sorts out their school bag the night before so that they do not forget books or equipment for the following day. **Your child must bring their pencil case of equipment and planner to school every day.** Lockers will be available for your child to use and details of how you can purchase a locker will be available at the start of September.

Does my child need to wear their full school uniform?

Every child is expected to wear full school uniform from September. **Your child will need to bring a coat to school as the majority of break-times and lunchtimes will be spent outdoors.** Our school uniform is available to buy from [Elizabeth's Embroidery](#). Alternatively, several of our uniform items such as shirts, PE socks and PE shorts are available from local supermarkets and sports shops.

Our school uniform is as follows:

- School blazer with St John's logo
- School tie (**Year 7 - TURQUOISE stripe**)
- Black trousers (not skinny fit) available from Elizabeth's Embroidery
- Black drop waist pleated skirt (optional)
- White shirt (not fitted for girls)
- Black tank top/jumper with St John's logo (optional)
- Smart black leather dress shoes

Most PE items are available from our uniform suppliers, Elizabeth's Embroidery:

- Maroon polo shirt or t-shirt
- Black shadow stripe shorts (not cycling, no logo)

- Maroon socks
- Black St John's hoodie (optional)
- 3G footwear (AstroTurf boots or plastic moulded studs)
- Shin pads
- Swimming costume, towel and goggles

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Please note that we are anticipating the lifting of COVID restrictions, and therefore, we will be implementing our full sporting provision and extra-curricular programme from September 2021. Further details will follow at the start of September.

What happens about school transport and St John's subsidy scheme?

Transport to St John's is a Durham County Council administered service; they arrange the contracts which define the total costs of the service, and they collect payments from you. We, as a school, make a sizeable financial contribution to this scheme to support subsidies for families on lower incomes. Essentially, we pay the difference between parental payments and the total cost of the transport scheme. For many years this has ensured that affordable transport to St John's has been maintained and we will continue to offer a subsidy scheme.

Please see our [Transport letter](#) for further details regarding prices, subsidies and application processes.

We hope we have answered your questions with this helpsheet but, if you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact us at staff@stjohnsrc.org.uk

Thank you.

