

Year 6/7 Transition Video 2020 Questions

What time does school start?

- The school day starts at 8.40 with registration in your form groups, being either T, W, I, G or S.
- Each form group has a form room, which is also a classroom and pupils are allowed to spend time in their form rooms before and after school, at break and lunch.
- You are not allowed to eat in these rooms, but there are places to eat outside and in the canteen.
- On Mondays and Thursdays there is then a whole school assembly, and on a Friday there is one for just KS3.
- On Tuesdays and Wednesdays there is what we call form time, where there is an opportunity to do some reading, or take part in a variety of form activities such as a quiz.
- In these form rooms you will all have your own locker. You can keep your school books for the day in here so you do not have to carry them all around with you. Please bring a padlock on your first day.

What do I do if I am late to school?

- If you are late for whatever reason, such as your bus not being on time, you must go straight to the reception entrance and sign into the late book.
- Once you have signed in, you should then go to wherever you are meant to be according to your timetable.

How many lessons do I have a day?

- You have 5 lessons each day, except on a Friday when we finish an hour early at 2.40pm and only have 4. Each lesson is an hour long. The first is after registration until 10.10 when you have a 20 minute break. You then have two more lessons before an hour lunch break, and then another two lessons in the afternoon.

How do I know what lessons I have and where I need to go?

- On your first day in September, you will be given a two week timetable by your form tutor which will include all of your lessons, including Maths, English, Science, Languages, Arts etc.
- Your timetable will tell you what room each individual lesson is in and the name of your teacher.
- You will also receive a planner where you can make a copy of your timetable so you always have it with you. I would also recommend sticking a copy of your planner in the inside of your locker in your form room, as well as having a copy at home.

What if I get lost trying to find my lessons?

- On your first day you will also receive a planner. On the first few pages there is a map of the school that shows you where each room is. However, you can also ask any other teacher and pupil in the school who will be happy to help you find your way.
- It may seem quite big at first, but you will soon learn your way around.
- If you do get lost and end up being late to a lesson, please do not worry! Teachers are aware that it is all very new in the first few weeks and will not tell you off!
- Year 8 buddies?

Do I have all my lessons with my form group?

- In Year 7 you are with your form group for all of your lessons. This also means it should be easier to find your way around school as you all go together. It is only in Year 8 that you are split up and this is just for Maths to start with.

What if I have never done a subject before?

- For some subjects, like languages, you may have different levels of knowledge. However, teachers are fully aware of this and will start off with some of the basics to allow all of you to get up to the same place.

Will I get lots of homework?

- In order to help you settle into TWGGS you will not receive any homework in September.
- From October, you will be given a homework timetable so that you can plan ahead and know when you might be getting given some work.
- Each piece of homework should not take more than 30 minutes to complete, and you will not receive any more than 3-4 subjects per evening - you often will not even get this much.
- We recommend if possible trying to complete it on the day it is set so that you stay on top of your homework. However, we also know a lot of you will be involved in extracurricular activities and so this may not always be possible. For this reason, it is very rare for any homework to be due the day after it's set.
- In order to keep track of your homework and when it is due, you should record it into your planner and show your parents/carers so that they can monitor what needs to be completed.

Are you allowed to have a mobile phone in school?

- In order to allow you to settle in and make the most of your first few months at TWGGS, Year 7 pupils are not allowed to have their mobile phones or electronic equipment turned on at any point throughout the school day, including during break and lunch times.
- This blanket ban is in place during the first term from September-January, to encourage the growth of friendships and the participation in extracurricular activities.
- We understand that you will probably need to bring a mobile phone into school, but it must be switched off and left in your bag or school locker provided until the end of the day.

How does the canteen work?

- The school operates a cashless canteen system and on your first day in September, you will be given a card that is personalised to you, which you use every time you want to purchase anything in the canteen.
- Food is available at both break and lunch with a range of hot and cold meals available every day. There is also a pod in the courtyard that sells more snack type meals.
- If you do not want to have school meals, you can also bring a packed lunch.
- In fine weather, packed lunches may be eaten outside, but not at the front of the school. There is also some covered outside space in the courtyard where you can eat throughout the year.
- No food or drink may be consumed by pupils in any of the buildings except the canteen. Drinking water may be drunk in classrooms (but not laboratories or ICT rooms) with permission of the teacher.
- If you lose your canteen card, you need to go to the canteen to get it replaced.

What clubs can you do at TWGGS?

- Most clubs occur during lunch times, but some also take place before school in registration times, and after school. If you are selected to play in any of the sports teams, these fixtures will also often occur after school.
- There are a range of different clubs including sports, such as netball and hockey in winter and tennis, rounders and athletics in spring and summer. There are also music clubs with choir and orchestra, as well as book clubs, drama clubs and a Green Society club.

Where do I keep my PE kit?

- Located by the PE changing rooms are PE lockers that are available to keep PE kit in. You will need an additional padlock for this.

What if I am coming to TWGGS without anyone that I know?

- There will be many pupils joining TWGGS who do not know anyone else. Take this as an opportunity to make new friends.
- Be open minded to getting to know everyone in your form and do not worry about finding a friendship group straight away - these will naturally change as you go through TWGGS.
- If you do know that some people have come to TWGGS who do not know anyone else, then please include them at break and lunchtimes.

What do you do if you are having friendship problems/unhappy?

- If you are unhappy, then your first point of call will be either your form tutor, Miss Fenn or Mr Walker. However, they are also all full time teachers and so may not always be available.
- We therefore also have a dedicated pastoral support team, who are Mrs Barclay and Mrs Rogers. They are available before school and at break and lunch times in their offices, located down the Geography corridor.
- No problem is ever too small, and if it is worrying you then please feel free to discuss any problems with them so that they can help.