

Be Your Best Self

Friday 9th September 2022



Dear Year 7 parents, carers and students,

Just a short note at the end of the first week of term. Firstly, a very warm welcome to the Tadcaster Grammar School family.

I know I speak on behalf of all the school staff when I say how incredibly impressed I have been with our fantastic Year 7 cohort. At the start of the week we asked them to do 3 things: "Listen carefully, be kind to themselves and others, and to make sure they enjoyed their time in school". They have all managed to do this with such responsibility. Wonderful.

Thank you also to all parents and carers for your support. We really do empathise and understand the challenges you face getting your child to school on time, correctly dressed and equipped every day. It's never easy, especially first thing in the morning. The year group look magnificent in their uniform and you can look forward to receiving a proof of their school photos soon.

I hope you have seen your child(ren) coming back home tired but happy with stories to tell. At the start of term it's all about long days but short weeks.

Please do not hesitate to contact the school if you think we can assist. We recommend you follow this order of communication:

- 1st: Contact the form tutor
- 2nd: Contact the Year 7 Pastoral Leader
- 3rd: Contact the Year 7 Year Leader



Headteacher: Mr A Parkinson B.Sc (Hons) M.Ed M.Sc
Toulston, Tadcaster, North Yorkshire. LS24 9NB
(01937) 833466 | www.tgs.starmat.uk

Form	1st: Form Tutor	Email
7C1	Ms H. Richardson Ms V Hubbard	h.richardson@tgs.starmat.uk v.hubbard@tgs.starmat.uk
7C2	Ms J. Alderson Ms L.Caine	j.alderson@tgs.starmat.uk l.Caine@tgs.starmat.uk
7D1	Ms T. Gillingham	t.gillingham@tgs.starmat.uk
7D2	Mr C Eaton	c.eaton@tgs.starmat.uk
7F1	Mr J Hoyle	j.hoyle@tgs.starmat.uk
7F2	Ms R. Dickinson	r.dickinson@tgs.starmat.uk
7O1	Mr J. Alderman	j.alderman@tgs.starmat.uk
7O2	Ms L Thompson	l.thompson@tgs.starmat.uk
7T1	Ms H. Stiles Ms P Parkin	h.stiles@tgs.starmat.uk p.parkin@tgs.starmat.uk
7T2	Mr R Jenkins	r.jenkins@tgs.starmat.ukk

	2nd: Pastoral Leader	3rd: Year Leader
Year 7	Pastoral Leader Mr D Bass d.bass@tgs.starmat.uk	Year Leader Ms C Hodgson c.hodgson@tgs.starmat.uk
	Year 7 Phone number: 01937 833466 Extension number: 232 / 218	

General contact with the school

Please ring Reception on: 01937 833466

Or use the following contact form: <https://tgs.starmat.uk/contact/>

'Thank You's' to individual staff: via their own TGS email address or <https://tgs.starmat.uk/contact/>

Contacting your child at school

If you need to contact your son/daughter during the day, please call Reception on 01937 833466 and we will pass the message on. Please do not call your child(ren) on their mobile phone as this is disruptive to learning and may put your child in conflict with a member of staff. Our approach to students' use of mobile phones is as follows:

8.35 school bell - start of school: phones turned off and put away in school bags
3.10 school bell - end of school: phone can be taken out of school bags and turned on

The only exception to the above is when a member of staff gives permission for a student, group of students, or the whole class to use mobile phones whilst under their supervision in a lesson in support of a learning task. This is very rare in Year 7; your child will not be disadvantaged if they do not have a mobile phone.

In circumstances when your child needs to make a call home or elsewhere, they should report to school reception or their year office during break or lunchtime where they will be supervised using their mobile phone or a school landline.

Please be aware that the school cannot be held liable for losses or damage of personal mobile phones.

You may be interested to note the following infographic which details the behaviours we seek to support, develop, recognise and reward with all of our students. These expand on our core student values of AMBITION, RESPONSIBILITY, RESILIENCE and RESPECT. Students are rewarded with positive points which go towards lapel badges - more about this later.

Have a great weekend.

Kind regards

Andrew Parkinson
Headteacher



Tadcaster
Grammar School

BE AN OUTSTANDING LEARNER

BE YOUR BEST SELF

AMBITIOUS Learners:

- Are **fully focussed** and **ready** to work straight away.
- **Actively listen** to the teacher and others.
- **Participate** fully in their learning. **Ask** and **answer questions**.

RESILIENT Learners:

- **Give everything a go**; see **mistakes** as an **opportunity to improve**.
- Show **maximum effort** and have a **positive attitude** at all times.
- **Respond to feedback** in order to improve.

RESPONSIBLE Learners:

- Arrive **on time** and are **fully equipped** for the lesson.
- Hand all their work in **on time**.
- Always **behave and act in a safe manner** for themselves and others.

RESPECTFUL Learners:

- Take **pride in the presentation** of their work and themselves.
- **Follow instructions** and are **considerate, polite** and **tolerant**.
- **Look after** the school environment.

CHECK YOUR VALUES

Application for Free School Meals

Circumstances can change for anyone, as the enormous impact from the pandemic continues to prove. Some families can suddenly find themselves trying to cope with a new financial strain and pressure, perhaps as a result of a stressful new situation: separation, loss of a job, decreased working hours, illness etc. If your household income is low or has recently decreased, your child may well qualify for Free School Meals. Indeed, over the last two years, we have seen a significant rise in successful applications.

If you wish to apply for Free School Meals, you can complete the application form: [HERE](#)

In addition to securing free school meals, your child would also become eligible for Pupil Premium funding. This provides school with money that we utilise to support your child with additional educational opportunities - [Pupil premium - GOV.UK](#).

We also work closely with our local food banks, who continue to offer vital support to families.

<https://www.trusselltrust.org/get-help/find-a-foodbank/>

As a school we strive to offer additional educational opportunities to all students and do not want home financial difficulties to be a barrier. We are here to support. Please feel free to contact our Pupil Premium lead in school, Mrs Hubbard (v.hubbard@tgs.starmat.uk) or your child's Year Leader to discuss these matters further in confidence.

Chromebooks

If you ordered a Chromebook over the summer through the school partner Freedomtech, these will be delivered to the school shortly.

If you missed the deadline, please be advised that a 'catch up' portal has now been opened on our website to order a device. This will close on Sunday 9th October 2022.

Mike Dunphy
Assistant Headteacher
m.dunphy@tgs.starmat.uk
