



FAQ's for NEW Year 7 Parents:

Transition Information



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Who do I contact about School Transport?

NYCC Passenger Transport 0300 1312131

How does the school communicate with parents?

We use two main methods to communicate with parents: parental emails (for letters, Headteacher updates, direct communication) and ClassCharts (Direct communication, Year group and class group communication, behaviour updates) You will be given further details and logins in September.

What are some tips for supporting my child's transition to secondary school?

- Devise a home routine for homework, bag packing/preparing for the next day, appropriate bedtimes, plans for a school morning etc.
- Print off their timetable and have it where everyone can see it.
- Encourage them to establish healthy habits and participate in extra-curricular activities.
- Encourage them to expand their friendship group(s). Make time to talk and review their day/week.

How can I help my child adjust to the new school environment?

We will do all we can to familiarise them with the layout of school and guide them in finding their way around - this usually takes two/three weeks before they are confident in navigating around school; other year groups are very helpful in supporting the younger students. Please encourage them to make new friends. Encourage them to ask for help when they need it.

Routines & Procedures:

What time does school start and finish?

We are open for students from 8am - School starts at 8.35am : School ends at 3.10pm. Check the school website or parent information guide for the specific timings (and occasional updates).

How does my child get from one class to the next?

A bell will sound at the end of each session with a 5 minute window to move through school to the next class; a second bell sounds to indicate the start of the next lesson. Students will be marked late after the second bell. Persistent lateness to lessons throughout the school day is recorded by teachers and may accumulate to result in a detention.

What if my child is late or absent?

If your young person is going to be late or absent from school you must contact the school and inform the attendance team - either by email or by phone. If the absence is pre-planned we ask you to complete a leave of absence form in advance (available on the school website, <https://tgs.starmat.uk/parents/consent-and-application-forms/>).



Where can I find the school's calendar of events?

The school website and year group parent information will include key dates and whole school events calendars.

<https://tgs.starmat.uk/parents/term-dates/>



How do I pay for things at school such as meals, trips and equipment?

We use "Parent Pay" at school. You will receive details before we break up for the Summer

Homework & Learning:

How much homework will my child be assigned?

Homework expectations vary by subject and teacher. It's best to talk to teachers at parents' evenings or via email if you have a concern. Generally, in Year 7, a subject may set homework once a fortnight which should take approximately 20 minutes to complete.

What can I do to support my child's homework?

Create a dedicated homework space, talk it through with them and offer assistance when needed. Encourage them to manage their time, potentially creating a set plan for the two week timetable when homework can be completed. Parents will have access to **Class Charts** where homework is listed for students. This will help you keep track of the homework and what is being completed. Parental logins will be provided in September. If homework ever becomes stressful, please talk to your child's Form Tutor.

How can I help my child stay engaged in their learning?

Encourage them to participate in extracurricular activities, find their strengths, and support their interests. Allow them to find their own way and try not to project your own experience and likes/dislikes from your own time at school. Find time to talk about school and their new learning journey.

Uniform & Other Matters:

What is the school uniform policy?

School uniform is an important element of the school's vision and values. Therefore all students are expected to wear their uniform correctly and take an active pride in their appearance. All parents of students attending Tadcaster Grammar School are expected to support the school with this. For specific details please check the school website: (<https://tgs.starmat.uk/parents/uniform/>)



How can I make sure my child takes responsibility for their belongings?

Support with organising the school bags and materials at home - develop the

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How can I make sure my child takes responsibility for their belongings?

Support with organising the school bags and materials at home - develop the routine of being ready for school the night before using the shared timetable to support this approach. Name their belongings, have spares of essentials at home and perhaps encourage them to use a locker.

Where can I find information about school trips or clubs?

Check the school website. Details of visits, clubs etc will also be shared via the Headteacher's updates which will be shared with parents on a regular basis.

<https://tgs.starmat.uk/prospectus/learning-beyond-the-classroom/>

Specific visits will be advertised well in advance and details will appear on ParentPay (This app will share details of visits and allow necessary payments to be made if required).



Communicating with the School:

Contact details/email Addresses: This information will be shared with you at the start of the year. It can also be found in the Headteacher's updates.

Who to approach first:

Individual teaching subject enquiry

1st: Your child's subject teacher

2nd: The Curriculum Team Leader

Pastoral enquiry

1st: Your child's form tutor

2nd: Your child's Pastoral Leader
for the subject

3rd: Your child's Year Leader

Supporting Your Child's Well-being:

How can I help my child make new friends?

Encourage them to join clubs, participate in school events, and be open to making new friends. Do not worry if this doesn't happen straight away. It can take time.

What if my child is feeling stressed or anxious?

Encourage your child to talk about their feelings. Talk to the school and if needed we can arrange support. Remember stress and anxiety are normal reactions to our busy and challenging lives - if we can rationalise our feelings and build resilience this will help in the long run.

How can I help my child stay happy and healthy?

Encourage them to get enough sleep, eat a healthy diet and engage in regular physical activity. Encourage them to view school through a more positive lens even when times and circumstances are difficult. Children can sometimes label days as good or bad, when actually they are a mixture of many different things, some good, some not so good. Help them to label anything uncomfortable and then try to label it as a small, medium or big problem. Then encourage and support them in finding their own solutions.



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