

Pupil Frequently Asked Questions

1. Will I get to meet other people in my form and my Form Tutor before September?
Yes! We will be holding our transition day on Thursday 4th July 2024. Further details will be advised nearer the time.
2. How much homework do we get?
Usually, teachers will set one or two pieces of homework a week per subject which works out at 2-3 pieces of homework a night. In Year 7 we expect homework to take about 30 minutes per piece. However in the first term, **the homework timetable is reduced** to allow you to learn how to manage your time, attend clubs and other extra-curricular activities and to get used to the new setting. **This will work out at 2-3 pieces of homework each week for the first term.** More detail on this is included in the parent information pack on the school website.
3. Which clubs and sports are available for Year 7s?
We have lots of different lunchtime and after school clubs to join, from sports teams to school and Year Council to Debate club. These do change throughout the year as well due to seasons. A full list of what should be on offer will be posted on the school website (under the students tab) in due course.
4. What are school lunches like?
School lunches are served on a rota so each year group goes in at a slightly different time during lunch. Currently there is a 3 week rotation menu so there is always something different, but each day there are cold sandwiches, hot paninis, fruit and salad, vegetarian and halal options and a meal of the day. We use a cashless catering system – you have an online account and money can be loaded onto your account online. You can check your balance and add cash onto your account through the cash box in the school dining room.
5. Are lockers available for Year 7?
No unfortunately you will need to ensure you know when you have PE so you can bring your kit in and check your timetable each evening to have the correct books with you.
6. Will we be given a school planner?
We don't use school planners as homework is set via a website called Google Classroom. Don't worry – we will show you how it works when you start! You will be given copy of your timetable (which will conveniently fit into your blazer pocket) so you will always have that with you and know where you are supposed to be. It is absolutely fine if you would like to use a diary to help with organisation and up to you if you would like to bring that to school with you.
7. How are Form Tutors and Progress Leaders different?
Your Form Tutor is the first staff member you will see each day. They will take the register, pass on information, help you settle into the school. They are the first person you should speak to if you're worried about something. A Progress Leader is responsible for looking after the whole year group. They deliver assemblies, deal with major issues and monitor and support your learning and progress.
8. Will we have summer homework?
Yes you will! We have some tasks for you to complete over the Summer to prepare you for starting school and getting to know other students, and for them to get to know you! There will also be some competitions and data collection which you will use in your lessons in September. These will be given to you on the transition day.

9. Can you bring a pencil case?

Yes of course! You can have a pencil case of your choice with whatever equipment you would like. There is a recommended list of equipment you will need, this will be shared with you via the parent information booklet on the website, and also at the transition day in July.

10. How long do lessons last?

Usually, lessons are taught in 1 hour blocks with 5 lessons per day. Pupils move between classrooms and lessons. You may have the same teacher for more than one subject. You may have more than one teacher for the same subject.

11. Can you have any type of bag or shoes for school?

No. We have rules within the uniform policy (on the website) about the type of shoes you can wear. Please make sure this is carefully checked by you and your parents/carers if you are buying new shoes so that you have the correct shoes for Stretford Grammar. It doesn't suggest a bag, but our advice would be a backpack with plenty of room for books and all you will need for the day.

12. Are all elements of the PE kit compulsory?

Some of the kit is down to choice – for example, you could get both the rugby shirt and polo shirt, but you may have a preference for long or short sleeves so it is not necessary to have both. For more details check the full uniform list (also on the website) and in **the Parent Information pack** (this is in the new starters section on the website).

13. Will we get course books for subject lessons?

Subject departments may operate differently. Some may use exercise books, some may use booklets, some may use project files.

14. Is there a place to leave bikes/scooters?

Yes there is. There is a bike shed near to the dining room entrance, which is the main way pupils usually enter the school building in the morning, and there is also one near the back gate, which is only open from 8.00am. Both of these are locked during the school day and opened again at 3.00pm for access as students are going home.

If your question has not been answered here, please email newstarters@stretfordgrammar.com and we will address it and add it to the list.