

Year 6 – Zoom Meetings 2020 Frequently Asked Information



UNIFORM

Where and when can I buy school uniform?

NK Sports provide our uniform. You can visit their website and build your basket, but you will not be able to 'checkout' until July. Blazers are non-gendered however if you choose a 'fitted' blazer it will have 'girls' on the label and a 'standard' will have 'boys' on it. The supplier is unable to change this at the moment. You can of course cut off the label once you are happy with your chosen fit.

Do PE Kits need to have the HPA logo on?

Yes, these are available from NK Sports and you can find details on our website

Can we buy second hand Uniform and if so from where?

Students can wear second-hand uniform but unfortunately, we do not stock it at the moment.

Considering the current situation with COVID-19 the media are saying the ties and blazers are the least washed items of school uniform. What is the Academy's response to this?

At the present time, students are wearing easy to wash clothes into school. We will follow the latest Government guidelines about this. At the moment, the plan is to be in blazers and ties in September but, if the guidelines suggest that students still need to be in clothes which can be laundered easily, we will inform you of this and allow students to attend school in trouser/skirt and a white shirt.

Due to the current situation what if we are unable to get all the required uniform in time?

We hope that there will be no delays in supplying you with all your uniform requirements. However, if you do experience difficulties, please let us know.

TRANSITION

What are the plans for Year 6 Transition in regard to COVID-19, when is likely to be and how will you protect the children?

We are planning to have students in school for a transition visit. Student and staff safety are at the forefront of everything we do, and we will be following government guidelines closely to ensure your child is safe. We hope to be able to invite groups in small numbers of students according to whichever college the students are in. They will follow social distancing guidelines and sanitising stations and protocols will be used during their visit. We will be sending you details of this in the next week or so and with full details of visit.

Will students be able to meet their Tutor and College Leaders before September?

Yes, students will definitely be able to meet their College Leaders before they start.

When do we find out who will be the Tutors?

We are in the process of allocating tutors and this should be completed and communicated to you by the end of June.

What will happen because we haven't done SATS?

We have been very busy speaking with primary schools and collecting data about our new year 7 students. We understand that students were unable to sit their SATS exams but we have lots of good information about the levels students are working at and whether they need support with their work.

Will we receive a Year 6 starter pack?

Yes, this will be sent out in the post by the end of June.

Will you be providing students with a pencil case like the Primary schools are doing during COVID-19? What do students need in their pencil case?

No we will not be providing equipment for students. Students will need to have their own pencil case containing a pen, pencil, rubber, ruler, sharpener and a scientific calculator (we will send you information on the model of calculator required and how you can buy one from the Academy). Students will also need a reading book in their school bag.

Can students use a fountain pen or biro?

Students can use either. They should use blue or black ink. Black would be our preference

Will there be things in place for the first day to help the students find their way around?

Students will be given a tour of the school and they will also be given a map. Everyone is expecting students to get lost so all they have to do is ask and someone will direct them or take them to where they should be. The building is really simple and it rarely takes more than a day or two to find your way around.

LUNCH**Can students bring a packed lunch and if so where can they keep it?**

Yes, packed lunches can either be kept in the child's bag or in their locker.

What sort of meals can be purchased and how much do they cost?

We have a wide range of food available to suit all tastes and dietary requirements. There is a main meal every day, which with dessert costs £2 per day. Examples are Roast dinner on a Wednesday and Fish and Chips on a Friday. There are always vegetarian options and jacket potatoes and pizza slices are also available every day. Fruit is available every day. The menu is on three weekly rota.

We have a 'Grab and Go' area with a range of cold pasta pots and sandwiches and baguettes starting at £1. Students can also have their choice of roll made up.

We have outside pods for students to buy food from as well.

Are students allowed home at lunchtime?

No.

PE QUESTIONS

What sports do students take part in during their lessons?

A wide range not all of which are covered in year 7.

Invasion games: Football, Rugby, Netball, Hockey, Basketball

Striking and fielding games: Rounders, Cricket, Softball

Net Wall games: Table tennis, Badminton in KS4

Athletic activities: Cross country, Athletics, fitness suite

Outdoor and Adventurous activities: Orienteering, Duke of Edinburgh award from Year 9

Swimming: Annual swim gala

Dance: Many types including the option of picking this as an option in Year 10

Gymnastics: Traditional gymnastics and parkour

Is contact sport optional for girls or is it compulsory?

Compulsory

How are contact sports and drama going to work with social distancing?

We will follow government guidance

Do girls need football boots in Year 7? Can they be any colour?

Yes, all students need football boots (not astro boots or bladed studs). Any colour.

GENERAL QUESTIONS

What is the earliest time you can arrive in school and what time does school finish?

The earliest students should arrive at school is 8am. We do have a breakfast club so students can come in early and have breakfast in school if they wish to do so. The school day finishes at 3pm but students can stay to complete homework until 4.30pm

When will you know your timetable and how do you know what time to go to your classes?

Students will be given their timetable on their first day in September. The Tutor and Year 10 students in their Learning Family will go through it with them to make sure they understand it. The timings of the day are on the timetable. At break and lunchtime, students will see staff communicating when they start making their way to their next lesson.

Are students allowed to use phones in the Academy building? Can mobile phones be left at Reception during the day?

Students are not allowed to use phones in school at all. Phones can be given to College Leaders to lock away at the start of the day.

What reading material do students need and does the Academy provide this?

Students can make their own choice of reading materials. They will be given a reading book when they attend transition and students can take books out from the Learning Resource Centre. We are very keen that our students read widely and we have a fantastic selection of books to choose from. Students will also have a reading lesson in the Learning Resource Centre and they can quiz on the books they have read and keep track on the progress they are making.

How often will Year 7 students get homework, what is the expectation and how is it set?

Students are set homework on SIMS App. Full details of how to sign up for the parents App will be sent to you so you can keep track of their homework, attendance achievement points etc. Students will generally receive one piece of homework per week for each subject. If homework is not completed, students have to attend homework catch up sessions at break time.

How long is break and lunchtime?

Break is 20 minutes and lunch is 35 minutes.

Are students allowed to create their own clubs during break and lunchtimes?

Yes. If a student has an idea for a club, they should speak to their Tutor or College Leader.

Is there a Buddy system?

We don't use a buddy system but our Year 10 students will take responsibility for the Year 7 students in their Learning family to make sure they settle in and have someone to ask if they have any questions or problems.

Will students have mentors they can talk to if they are finding things difficult?

We do have mentors in school but the first port of call would be the tutor.

What happens if students forget where they need to be?

Student can go to reception where someone will help them to find out which lesson they need to go to.

How many lessons are there in a day?

There are six lessons a day, each one 50 minutes.

Are Learning Families made up of different year groups?

Learning families have students from Year 7 to Year 10.

Will siblings be put in the same Learning Family?

Generally speaking, siblings will be in the same College, but different Learning Families unless there is a specific request from a parent for them to be together.

Are Learning Families made up of mixed Colleges?

No, they are mixed age groups but not mixed colleges.

Will students be able to enter the Academy via the back gates in September?

Yes.

What year can students become Prefects?

Year 11

Can students be awarded Certificates?

Student can achieve certificates for all sorts of things.

Will it be possible to discuss my child's needs with your SENCo Team?

If you need to speak to the SENDCO, please email info@hansprice.org.uk and mark for the attention of the SENDCO.

What foreign language will my child study?

Your child will either study French or Spanish.

Will my child be issued a locker?

All students will be allocated a locker and key free of charge. If the key is lost a replacement costs £2.50.

My child is not in the same College as their friend does that mean they will be in different classes and Learning Families?

If students are in different colleges to their friends, they will not be in the same Learning Family, but may well still be in lessons with their friends. Learning Family is only 25mins a day, four days a week and is followed by breaktime when they will be able to meet up with their friends. We do find that students make friends in their own Learning family very quickly.

What are the rules about Bullying?

We do not accept bullying. We promote respect and expect all our students to treat each other kindly and respectfully. We do know, however, that bullying can happen and we ask you to report any instances of bullying immediately. We cannot deal with things that we don't know about. We absolutely do not tolerate bullying and we will deal with any issues that are brought to our attention.

COVID-19 RELATED QUESTIONS

At the present time, the government aspiration is for all students to be back full time in September, it we will be guided by scientific and H&S advice in terms of how we manage that.

Answers to your specific questions below:

If the Government changes the ruling regarding opening schools to all pupils, will Year 7 get priority in starting?

The Government have said that no further students will be in school until at least September. We await further guidance from them in relation to how students will return and in what priority.

Will class sizes be smaller?

We will be guided by the rules for social distancing. If we are still socially distancing in September, then class sizes will definitely be smaller.

Will there be time for PE changing rooms/resources to be cleaned between sessions?

If this is the advice from the Government in September, we will ensure lessons are spaced sufficiently to allow cleaning to take place

Due to COVID-19 our holiday has been moved to term time next year. Will this be authorised? Unfortunately, we are unable to authorise any term time holidays.

How are you looking to minimise traffic around the Academy and how are you going to maintain social distancing at change of lesson and breaks times?

This will depend on the situation in September. If measures are needed this will be discussed with our Federation Health & Safety and measures implemented as required and in line with Government advice. We will, of course, keep you updated if any measures need to be put in place for September.

Will students be taught in a group and stay in one class all day, or will there be a large group movement? How will this work, maintaining safety?

Under normal circumstances, students will move classrooms at each lesson change. Given we are more than two months away from our September start date, we are unsure what the guidance will be at that time, but we will of course be guided by Government advice and keep you updated.

How are the Biometric finger prints going to be used with infection control?

Staff with anti-bacterial wipes will ensure all surfaces touched by students are cleaned before being touched by another student

What PPE measures are you taking to protect both student and employees?

PPE will only be worn by First Aiders but only if and when it is needed. Other staff may wear gloves whilst wiping down surfaces.

Can students wear their own PPE?

If you would like your child to wear PPE whilst walking to school, that is, of course, entirely your decision. However, once they enter the Academy, we will ask them to remove it and store it in a bag to be taken home safely at the end of the day.

Are you able to ensure that students have washed their hands before going into classrooms and is there capacity in the toilet areas?

Students will be asked to wash their hands before entering a room. They will also be asked to wash their hands regularly throughout the day. There are sanitising stations in all classrooms and students can also wash their hands in the toilet areas.

Will you expect students to carry hand gel?

Hand gel will be available around the school but students can carry their own should they wish to do so.

If you have any further questions that have not been answered here please email info@hansprice.org.uk or phone the Academy on 01934 629307.