



# Y6 TRANSITION

## Guide

Essential information to help students and parents during the transition to secondary school



GRAHAM SCHOOL IS PART OF



**HEARTWOOD**  
LEARNING TRUST

LIFE IN ALL ITS FULLNESS  
A PLACE TO THRIVE

# Key DATES

## 2026

- 1 July Year 6 Parent meeting at Graham School 4pm to 5pm (children welcome to attend also)
- 2 and 3 July Transition Days
- 20 to 22 July Summer School

## New Term 2026

- 7 September Staff training day – school closed
- 8 September Staff training day – school closed
- 9 September **School opens for all students**
- 23 October Staff training Day – school closed
- 18 December Staff training day – school closed

## 2027

- 4 January Staff training day – school closed
- 5 January **School opens for all students**
- 26 July Staff training Day – school closed

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# A Warm Welcome

We are absolutely delighted that your child will be joining us in Year 7 this September. This is the start of an exciting journey, and we look forward to working closely with you over the coming months to ensure a smooth, confident transition to secondary school.

It is a truly exciting time to join our community. As we continue to make significant progress on our journey to becoming a “strong” school, we are incredibly proud of our most recent Ofsted inspection. Furthermore, we have received national recognition for our work regarding student inclusion and SEND, which has become a core strength of our school.



## OUR COMMITMENT TO YOUR CHILD

As part of the Heartwood Learning Trust, we offer unique opportunities for students to flourish both inside and outside the classroom. From visits to local universities and colleges to guest speakers and trips abroad, we are dedicated to helping every child reach their academic potential and grow as an individual. Working in Partnership Successful schools thrive on effective communication. To keep you updated, we provide regular news via our school website and share “good news” stories and event details on our Facebook page. When students attend Graham School, they are well-taught and provided with a multitude of opportunities to fulfil their potential; however, missing education creates gaps that cause children to fall behind. We look forward to working with you to ensure high attendance so your child can truly thrive.

Primary students transitioning to secondary school primarily worry about, managing new friendships, getting lost, increased workloads and stricter teachers. The reason for this is the shift from being the eldest at Primary school to the smallest and the youngest at more complex and larger secondary schools. This booklet will give you lots of useful information about our proposed transition. To help your child feel at home, we have a comprehensive transition plan in place, including: Close collaboration with your child’s current primary school. Full transition days at Graham School this July. Summer School opportunities at the start of the summer holidays. This is the start of an exciting journey for you and your child, which we will enjoy together!

**Mr J Newton**  
Principal, Graham School



**AT GRAHAM SCHOOL,  
WE AIM EVERY DAY TO**

*'Grow, Learn and  
Achieve together'*

**OUR CORE VALUES**

- Honesty
- Empathy
- Aspiration
- Resilience
- Teamwork

**OUR VISION**

- Every member of our community is supported in growing as an individual so that they can achieve their dreams and aspirations
- We improve the life chances and social capital of all learners through an inclusive approach
- Our community understands the value of education and the importance of embracing opportunities to learn and grow
- We develop resilient, confident and respectful young people who contribute positively to their communities and who understand their responsibilities as citizens
- Everyone can thrive in a safe, calm and positive learning environment

**We will achieve this through:**

- A rigorous, broad and varied curriculum which is responsive to the needs of all students and will prepare them in every way for their future
- High quality, inspirational and innovative teaching
- Creative, exciting and memorable opportunities both inside and outside the classroom
- A culture where diversity is embraced, and tolerance and understanding are promoted



**KEY STAFF**

As a parent, you may need to contact school either before your child starts with us or when they move into Year 7. Here are the school contact details as well as the names of key staff who you may need to contact in future.

**Main school contact details – Reception:**  
Tel: 01723 366451 Email: [hello@gra.hlt.academy](mailto:hello@gra.hlt.academy)

**PRINCIPAL:**  
Mr J Newton

**SEND LEAD:**  
Mr D Brown

**VICE PRINCIPAL –  
BEHAVIOUR AND  
ATTITUDES:**  
Mr A Wilson

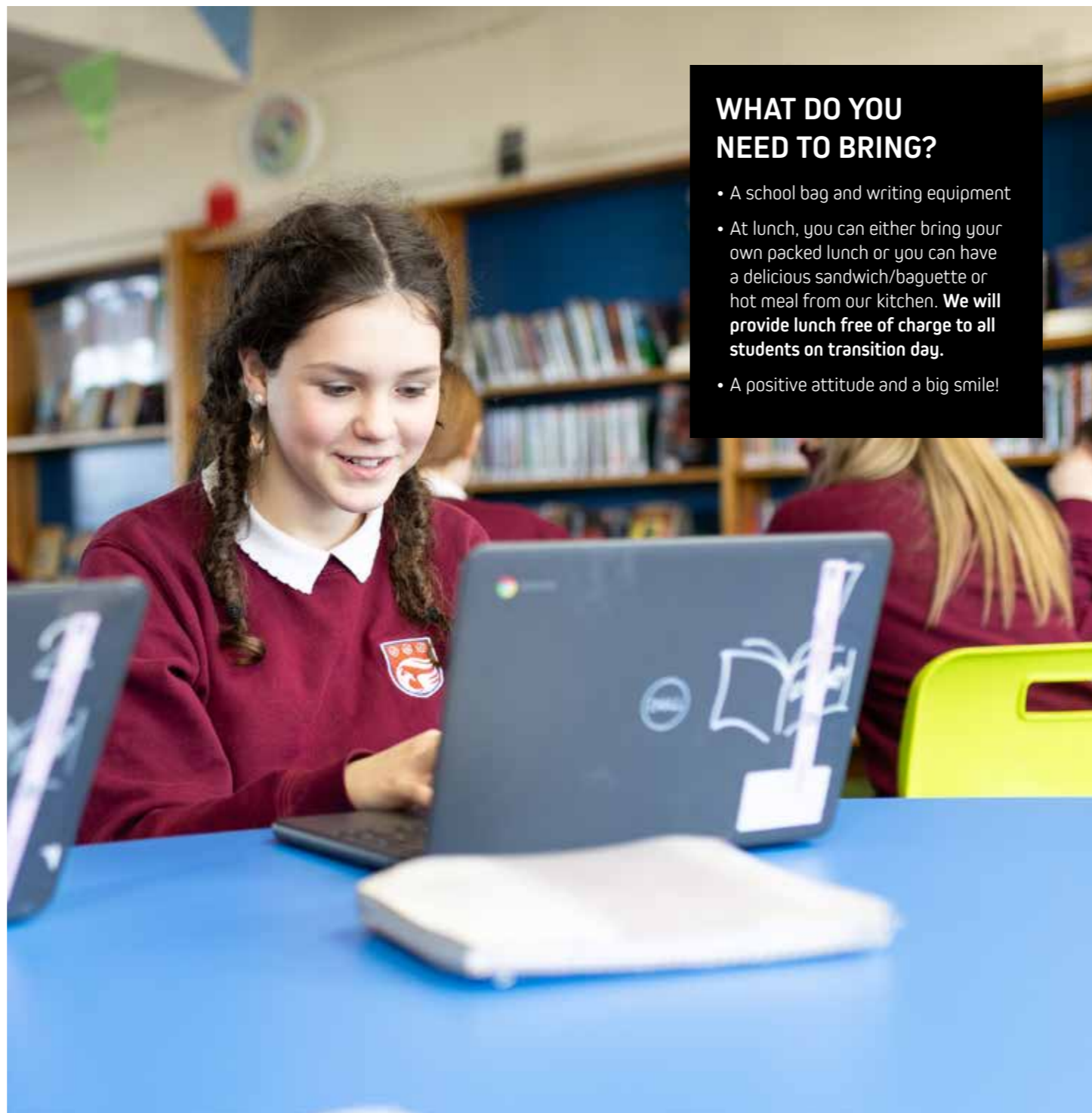
**SAFEGUARDING:**  
Miss S Swan

**ASSISTANT VICE  
PRINCIPAL –  
TRANSITION LEAD:**  
Mr G Peattie

# STUDENT LEADERSHIP

## 2026/27

We are proud of our Student Leadership Team at Graham School. Every year group is represented and we have lead students elected from each year group and where possible each tutor group. As Year 7 students you will be invited to get involved by sharing your ideas and suggestions; you could apply to become a lead student or even become an anti-bullying ambassador. The role of the Student Leadership is to listen to the student body and to promote ideas from students, as such everyone who is a lead student is then invited to join a committee to focus on an area of the school such as; Curriculum, Teaching and Learning, Behaviour and Wellbeing and Community, Charity and the Environment. In 2025/6 we focused on raising money for charities such as Teenage Cancer and Save the Children. As part of their Leadership Award, Year 7 organise 'Christmas Parcels' for vulnerable families in the local community. We look forward to you getting involved in the School Council when you come to Graham School!



### WHAT DO YOU NEED TO BRING?

- A school bag and writing equipment
- At lunch, you can either bring your own packed lunch or you can have a delicious sandwich/baguette or hot meal from our kitchen. **We will provide lunch free of charge to all students on transition day.**
- A positive attitude and a big smile!

# TRANSITION

## Days

2, 3 JULY 2026

We are planning to offer two Transition Days to all students on 2, 3 July 2026 – there's a provisional structure for this Induction Day in the timetable below. Current lead students will be your personal assistants for the whole day, so you won't need to worry about anything! If however you do have something that you'd like to know about Transition Day, do not hesitate to get in touch with Mr Peattie by email: [g.peattie@gra.hlt.academy](mailto:g.peattie@gra.hlt.academy) or by contacting school directly T: 01723 366451.

TIME	ACTIVITY
8:20am – 8:40am	Begin to arrive at Graham School. Staff will welcome you at the student entrance and direct you to the main hall
8:45am – 9:20am	Welcome assembly, including meet the student leads for the day. Go to your form room with your tutor
9:20am – 10:20am	Lesson 1
10:20am – 10:50am	Lesson 2 (30 mins)
10:50am – 11:10am	Break time – Year 6 only
11:10am – 11:40am	Lesson 2 continued (30 mins)
11:40am – 12:40pm	Lesson 3
12:40pm – 1:00pm	Lesson 4 (20 mins)
1:00pm – 1:40pm	Lunch – Year 6 only
1:40pm – 2:15pm	Lesson 4 continued (35 mins)
2:15pm to 3:00pm	(shortened lesson)

Students can leave the school site at 3.00pm to walk home or be collected by parents. Students who require the school bus service will wait in the main hall supervised by staff until 3.15pm

# TRANSITION

## Experience

### TRANSITION EXPERIENCE

2, 3 JULY 2026

This is an opportunity for your child to experience what it is truly like to be a Graham School student.

On 2 and 3 July, students are asked to arrive for an 8.45am start, where they will meet in the main hall for an assembly with a senior member of staff/Principal/Head of Year.

The day will mirror the timetable of a Year 7 student to give the students the experience of moving from one room to another. Students will experience interesting and engaging structured learning activities taught by teachers who are experts in their subject area. Students will finish at 3.00pm.

Please see the example timetable. Break and lunch will be for Year 6 only.

	8.45 to 9.20	9.20 to 10.20	10.20 to 10.50	10.50 to 11.10	11.10 to 11.40	11.40 to 12.40	12.40 to 1.00	1.00 to 1.40	1.40 to 2.15	2.15 to 3.00
A	Meet in the hall for assembly/ Form Room	Art	Science	Break	Science	ICT	English	Lunch	English	Well Being Assembly
B	Meet in the hall for assembly/ Form Room	Dance	Art	Break	Art	French	English	Lunch	English	Well Being Assembly
C	Meet in the hall for assembly/ Form Room	Drama	Technology	Break	Technology	Geography	English	Lunch	English	Well Being Assembly
D	Meet in the hall for assembly/ Form Room	Technology	Geography	Break	Geography	History	English	Lunch	English	Well Being Assembly



### TRANSITION EVENING – WEDNESDAY 1 JULY 2026

#### 4PM – 5PM

During the evening, members of the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) including myself, Curriculum Leads and our Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCO) will be available in the main hall to answer any questions that require one-to-one focus.

#### 4pm – 5pm Main Hall

##### Welcome:

Mr Newton, Principal

##### Settling into Secondary School:

Pastoral Leader

##### Life as a Graham School Student:

Year 7 Student Leaders

##### Presentation of school Uniform and Expectations:

Mr Wilson, Vice Principal

Tour of the school along with Q & A in small groups with a member of staff.

# A FRESH *start*

## GETTING READY FOR SEPTEMBER 2026

The first day at secondary school can be quite daunting and it is important that your child is fully prepared and equipped to ensure the day goes as smoothly as possible. Use the handy checklist on this page to help make sure that your child is organised and ready for what the day has in store!

## BREAKFAST

We all know that breakfast is the most important meal of the day. Even if your child feels nervous, try to encourage them to eat something, as it's a long time until lunch! In addition, we run a bagel breakfast club from 8.25 to 8.40 every day and breakfast is free to everyone. It takes place in the canteen.

## ARE YOU CHECKED FOR SUCCESS?

- Backpack / bag
- Two black pens
- Pencil
- Pencil sharpener
- Ruler
- Rubber
- Highlighter / coloured pencils
- Scientific calculator
- Reading book
- Packed lunch / cashless system

## UNIFORM

Take the time to check that your child's uniform is correct.

Our school uniform is now the same for all students in all year groups. Any new items purchased should be in line with our new uniform.

### Maroon School Jumper with Logo

### White Polo Shirt

**Grey School Trousers\* OR Grey Pleated Skirt\*\***  
(this is optional for all students)

\*Trousers must be straight legged without zips or external pockets (formal style, skinny fit are not permitted) \*\*Skirts must be permanently pleated, straight skirts are not permitted. Black tights or black socks must be worn with the skirt

**Black Shoes** (Sensible leather/leather-look shoes or plain black polish-able trainers without coloured logos. Plain black canvas shoes are also permitted).

### BACKPACK/BAG

A sensible bag is vitally important for school. It should be very strong and durable (and waterproof if possible). There will be lots of things for your child to carry and you should check that your chosen bag has enough room for several books.

### LUNCH/CASHLESS SYSTEM

If your child will be eating in the school canteen, please ensure that they have enough funds on their ParentPay account. If a packed lunch is being provided from home, remember to check that your child takes it to school. ParentPay log in details will be emailed to families over the Summer Holidays.

### READING BOOK

Reading is a priority for all subjects. Please bring a reading book every day.



## UNABLE TO ATTEND

If your child is unwell or unable to attend school for any reason, please telephone **01723 366451** by 8.45am.

### HOLIDAYS

Holidays will not be authorised during term-time unless there are exceptional circumstances.

### TERM DATES:

- **Autumn Term 1 (2026)**  
9 September – 22 October
- **Autumn Term 2 (2026)**  
2 November – 17 December
- **Spring Term 1 (2027)**  
5 January – 5 February
- **Spring Term 2 (2027)**  
15 February – 19 March
- **Summer Term 1 (2027)**  
5 April – 28 May  
(May Day: Monday 3 May)
- **Summer Term 2 (2027)**  
7 June – 23 July

### STAFF TRAINING DAYS

- 7 September 2026
- 8 September 2026
- 23 October 2026
- 18 December 2026
- 4 January 2027
- 26 July 2027

## SCHOOL DAY *Overview*

Activity	Time
Registration	8:45am – 9:20am
Period 1	9:20am – 10:20am
Period 2	(inc 20-min break) 10:20am – 11:40am
Period 3	11:40am – 12:40pm
Period 4	(inc 35-min lunch) 12:40pm – 2.15pm
Period 5	2.15pm – 3.15pm



## WHAT SUBJECTS *will I be studying?*

Each week is broken down into 25 periods of study (lessons). The table on the right tells you which subjects you will be learning and how the groups are set up.

Subject Grouping	
English	Mixed ability
Maths	Set by KS2 data
Science	Set by KS2 data
Computing	(same as Maths groups)
Gender split / Mixed groups	
Personal, Social & Health Education (PSHE)/Religious Education	
PE	
Mixed ability	
Geography	Mixed ability
History	Mixed ability
Modern Foreign Language	Mixed ability
Art	Mixed ability
Design Technology	Mixed ability
Food/Textiles	Mixed ability
Drama/Dance	Mixed ability
Music Mixed	Mixed ability



# Setting THE STANDARD

## THE 'POSITIVE DISCIPLINE' BEHAVIOUR POLICY

Our School believes in the development of each individual and is committed to providing the best opportunities for all in an atmosphere of mutual respect. We seek to provide an environment in which effective teaching and learning can occur, where the qualities of trust, honesty, fairness, tolerance, compassion, respect for self, others and property are valued and pursued. The school's behaviour policy seeks to provide a clear framework of what is acceptable in terms of behaviour, attitude to learning, and conduct. Students are introduced to our behaviour policy upon transition to Graham School. Regular discussions then take place during form times that maintain their understanding of the policy, and review their positive and negative behaviour choices with their tutor and Director of Progress.

This is the Graham School Student Code of Conduct – T.R.U.S.T.

### Try your best

**Respect others, always;**

**Uniform matters: wear it correctly and with pride.**

**Stay safe: behave calmly and sensibly at all times.**

**Time is important: be in the right place at the right time!**

### Phases

A phase will be issued by staff when a student fails to meet one of the school expectations. These codes are listed below:

<b>B</b>	<b>Behaviour</b>
<b>A/S</b>	<b>Around-School</b>
<b>P</b>	<b>Lack of Progress/Passivity</b>
<b>E</b>	<b>Equipment and Organisation</b>
<b>L</b>	<b>Late</b>
<b>U</b>	<b>Uniform</b>



## THE PROCESS

The flow diagram on the right shows the stages involved in the sanctioning of unacceptable behaviour in lessons.

Three comments in a lesson will result in the student being removed to another teacher. This will automatically result in an after school detention which will last for 45 minutes.

If a student fails to attend a 45 minute detention they will be referred to a second detention at the next available opportunity. Failure to attend this detention will result in the student completing a day in our reflection room.

All detentions will be made clear to students via a student notice board.

Times of detentions will be sent to parents via our edulink app.

For more details, our behaviour policy can be accessed through our school website.

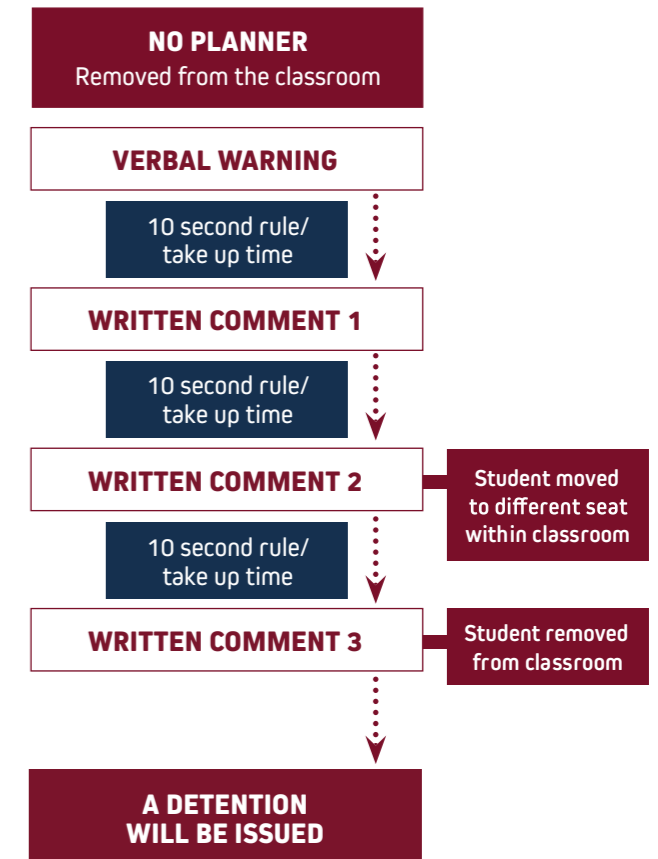
## REWARDS

Student achievement is celebrated through 'celebration assemblies' every term. The celebration assemblies look to reward students for their effort, achievement, positive attitude and their attendance throughout the course of the term. During this assembly, the students with the most stamps in each year group may be rewarded with vouchers as a 'well done' for their hard work that term.

All students can work towards stamps in every lesson and around school, so every pupil has the opportunity to achieve these rewards and as such, develop their own sense of achievement and an understanding that through working hard and doing their best, good things can happen!

The number of stamps is reset at the end of each term, so if a student hasn't been successful during any particular term, they have every opportunity to do so during the next one.

Rewards are also issued for academic excellence, most improved, high attendance and for those 'Unsung heroes' whose performance is always high, but who can sometimes go under the radar.



# GETTING TO *school*

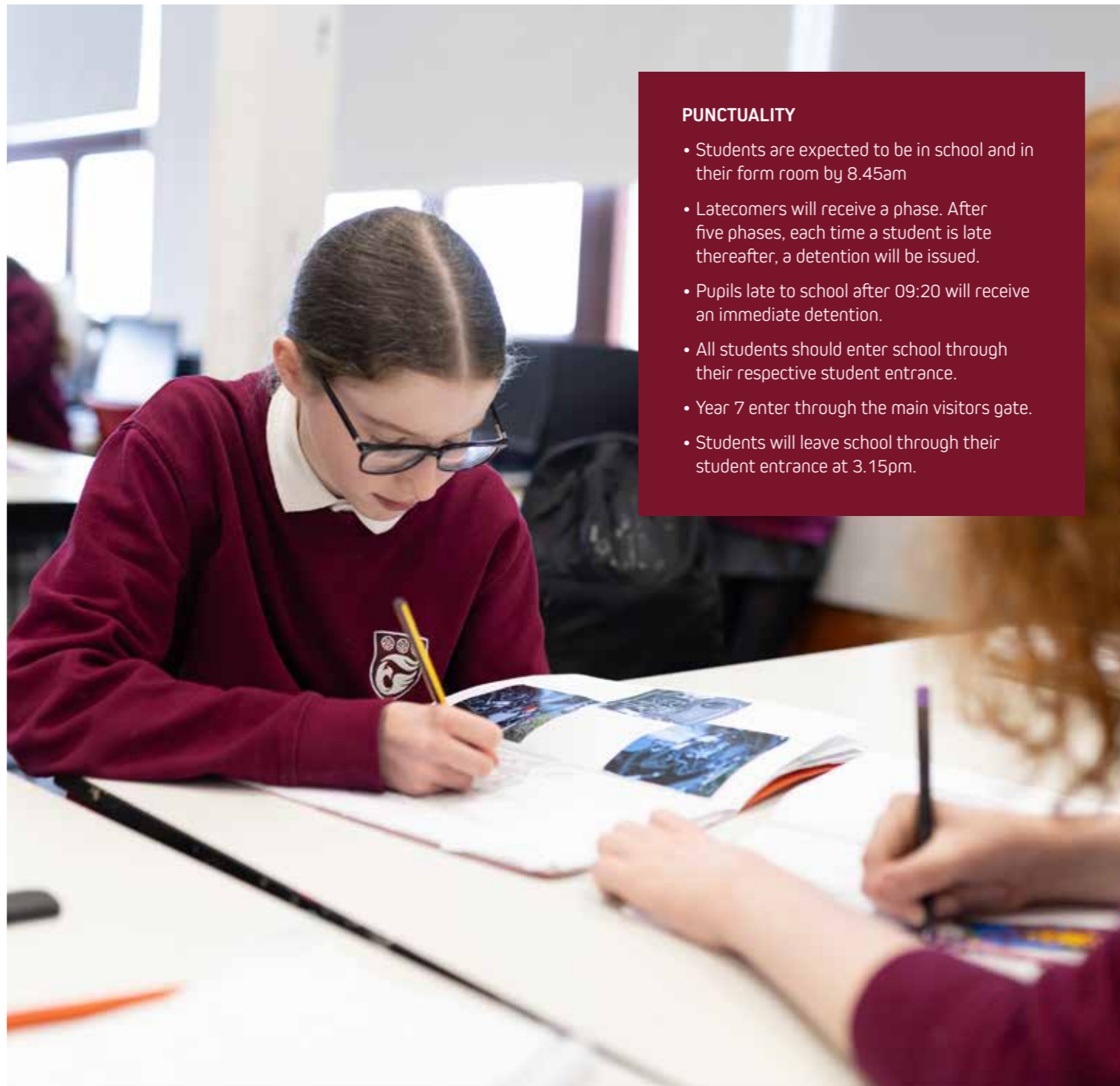
Getting to school Students are representing the school on their journey to and from school, and therefore we expect them to:

- Show members of the public respect and represent the school in the correct manner.
- Wear their uniform appropriately.
- Behave in a sensible and responsible manner.
- Be on time to school in the morning.
- Dismount their bikes and walk them through the school gates.

As students are representatives of the school on their way to and from school, any misdemeanours reported to school from the public will be treated as if the child were in school.

To make cycling to and from school a positive experience for everybody concerned, we expect our students to:

- Ride sensibly and safely and to follow the Highway Code.
- Check that their bicycle is roadworthy and regularly maintained
- Behave in a manner which shows them and the school in the best possible light and to consider the needs of others when cycling.
- Wear a cycle helmet. Ensure they can be seen by other road users, by using lights and wearing high-visibility clothing, as appropriate.



## PUNCTUALITY

- Students are expected to be in school and in their form room by 8.45am
- Latecomers will receive a phase. After five phases, each time a student is late thereafter, a detention will be issued.
- Pupils late to school after 09:20 will receive an immediate detention.
- All students should enter school through their respective student entrance.
- Year 7 enter through the main visitors gate.
- Students will leave school through their student entrance at 3.15pm.

# HIGH EXPECTATIONS *Appearance*

At Graham School we have high expectations around the appearance of our students. All students are expected to wear our school uniform correctly. Hair must be of a natural colour and not be of an extreme style. Jewellery must not be worn, although a single plain stud in each ear is allowed. This means that all rings, necklaces and additional ear-rings will need to be removed; this list is not exhaustive. False nails are not allowed, although short french nails are acceptable. There are no further exceptions to this due to the health and safety concerns that false nails present. False eyelashes are not allowed. Footwear must be black as outlined in the uniform section. Students will be expected to rectify breaches of the above expectations and sanctions may be put in place if they are unwilling to do this.

# HOW TO MAKE *Payments*

As a school we have embraced ParentPay, a secure online cashless system, so students will not be required to bring cash to school at all. This decision has been made to avoid students losing money between home and school, reduce the risk of bullying and put all students on a level platform.

## WAYS TO PAY

ParentPay is an online payment system for schools. It allows parents to pay quickly and securely for school meals, trips and activities, uniforms, music lessons and fees.

You simply top-up your ParentPay account online by debit or credit card. Payment by standing order and faster payments will be available soon.

Your ParentPay balance can be used immediately to pay for any of your children's items at any school using ParentPay.

## WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS TO PARENTS AND PUPILS?

ParentPay is easy to use and will offer you the freedom to make online payments whenever and wherever you like – 24 hours a day, 7 days per week.

- The technology used is of the highest internet security available ensuring that your money will reach school safely – offering you peace of mind.

- Payments can be made by credit/debit card.
- Full payment histories and statements are available securely online at any time.
- Your children won't have to worry about losing money at school.
- Parents can choose to be alerted when their balances are low via email and/or SMS text.
- It is safer for students.

## WHAT HAPPENS IF I DON'T HAVE ACCESS TO THE INTERNET?

You can add money to the parentpay account using paypoints which are available in many local shops. Details will be at the bottom of the parentpay letter that you will receive during the summer holidays.

## WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS TO OUR SCHOOL?

You can help us reduce workloads for all staff, creating more time to lend to educational support and the smooth running of the school. Using ParentPay ensures that all financial transactions are safe and secure – helping us to remove costs associated with us having to manage cash securely on the school premises.



## How to get started with ParentPay...

We will send you your account activation username and password during the summer holidays. Once you receive these:

- Visit [www.parentpay.com](http://www.parentpay.com)
- Enter your activation username and password in the Account Login section of the homepage.

NB: These are for one-time use only, you will choose your own username and password for future access during the activation process.

- Provide all the necessary information and choose your new username and password for your account – registering your email address will enable us to send you receipts and reminders.

Once activation is complete you can go straight to Items for payment, select which item(s) you want to add to your basket and proceed to complete your payment.

**PLEASE NOTE: WE CANNOT ACCEPT CASH OR CHEQUE PAYMENTS WITHIN SCHOOL.**

# GIVE YOUR EDUCATION

*an extra boost!*

At Graham School we are proud to be able to offer a whole range of extra-curricular opportunities, both in and out of school time. These range from a large choice of afterschool clubs to fantastic trips to other countries and even continents! Below are just some of the different opportunities on offer:

## **DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD**

Here at Graham School, the Duke of Edinburgh Award is offered to students at all levels. Over the past few years, many students have thrived whilst completing the award and developed a host of individual and social skills in a countryside setting. This is a must for anyone who loves being outdoors! Look out for this opportunity in Year 9 onwards!

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

The PE department will be running afterschool clubs which will cover a host of different sports including football, netball, gymnastics, rugby, athletics and rounders, depending on the time of year. We enter teams for boys and girls across all year groups into competitions, giving students the chance to represent their school in local, district and national competitions.



## **DRAMA**

The school has put on some wonderful productions over the years, as well as a host of smaller shows throughout the year. All budding actors and actresses should get involved in everything drama!

## **MUSIC**

Whether you play an instrument, are a singer or just want to get involved, everyone is always welcome at the music clubs. As with drama, the clubs are a chance to practise before performing in the bigger productions that everyone looks forward to!

## **STUDENT LEADERSHIP**

The voice of our students is taken seriously here at Graham School and as such, we have a strong Student Leadership Team. These meetings take place regularly which feed into a Whole School Focus and cover a wide range of issues, both in and out of school.

## **TRIPS**

There are lots of chances to go on a range of trips at Graham School. We offer visits abroad, numerous university trips, careers orientated workshops, sessions linked to wider curriculum areas, STEM activities, short residential to include outdoor pursuits.

This is just a taste of some of the things you will be able to enjoy in the coming years at Graham School.

# FREQUENTLY ASKED *questions?*

## **WHERE SHOULD MY CHILD GO ON THE FIRST DAY?**

On the first transition day and the first day in September, all students should go straight to the main hall at which point they will be escorted to their new form groups. Staff will be at the entrance to guide students in the right direction.

## **WHAT EQUIPMENT WILL MY CHILD NEED?**

To make learning as accessible as possible all students should be equipped with a strong suitable school bag (not handbag style), black or blue ink pen, a green pen, a purple pen, pencils and rubber, ruler and a calculator. If a scientific calculator can be purchased this would be more appropriate. All of the above can be purchased from any high street stationery shop.

## **WHAT HAPPENS IF MY CHILD GETS LOST BETWEEN LESSONS?**

We fully appreciate that moving around a large unfamiliar site has its difficulties. There will be staff and students available during lesson changeovers to help direct students who feel that they are lost. All Year 7 students will have a site map to help with movement. It takes about two weeks for everyone to find their way around confidently. Staff will be very understanding during this period if a Year 7 arrives late to a lesson.

## **DOES GRAHAM SCHOOL PROVIDE LOCKERS?**

Unfortunately, we simply do not have any space to provide lockers for all students throughout the school. There are a very limited number of lockers that we use and these are prioritised for some of our more vulnerable students.

If this would apply to your child please contact Mr Brown, SENDCO at [d.brown@gra.hlt.academy](mailto:d.brown@gra.hlt.academy)

## **MY CHILD IS VERY NERVOUS ABOUT THE MOVE TO SECONDARY SCHOOL. CAN I VISIT WITH THEM BEFORE TRANSITION DAY?**

We do have enhanced transition for vulnerable students that are arranged through our Learning Support Team and the Primary Schools. If your child requires a visit to settle any nerves or anxieties we would be very happy to support you in this.

To arrange such a visit please contact Graham School on 01723 366451 and ask to speak with Mr G Peattie, Assistant Vice Principal or alternatively you can find the email addresses within this booklet.

## **WHO SHOULD MY CHILD SEE IF THEY HAVE AN ISSUE?**

We make every effort to ensure that any issues are dealt with promptly. Every student has a form tutor, a behaviour support officer and dedicated pastoral staff.





The form tutor should be consulted in the first instance however if they are unavailable at the time then the student should visit the year office and speak with the behaviour support officer. Dependent on the issue raised, pastoral staff may become involved to support the student and contact will be made home if felt appropriate.

#### **CAN MY CHILD BRING THEIR MOBILE PHONE TO SCHOOL?**

We are a no phone school and therefore all students are issued with a YONDR pouch. Students will place their phone into the pouch on entry to school each morning in front of staff members and the student will carry their pouch and phone around with them all day.

They can unlock their pouch at the end of the day using the many unlock stations around school. Please refer to the enclosed YONDR information page or by visiting the YONDR website <https://www.veryondr.com/phone-free-schools>.

The misuse of mobile phones in every aspect is dealt with very seriously. This includes the misuse of YONDR pouches. When Y6 visit for transition days we expect no phones to be on show or heard at anytime during their visit.

#### **WILL MY CHILD GET BULLIED AT SECONDARY SCHOOL?**

Every effort is made to ensure that every child attending Graham School has a positive experience. The school has adopted a range of strategies to prevent and reduce bullying, to raise awareness of bullying and support victims and those displaying bullying behaviour. Where isolated incidents of bullying occur they are dealt with swiftly and in line with the Graham School anti-bullying policy which can be found on the school website.

#### **MY CHILD PREFERS TO STAY INSIDE DURING BREAKS AND LUNCH. IS THERE ANYWHERE THAT THEY CAN GO?**

Our canteen areas are open to students at break and lunch. Learning Support is also open for students during the break and lunch sessions, as is the library.

#### **WHAT DO I DO IF MY CHILD IS ILL AND CANNOT ATTEND SCHOOL?**

We have an attendance team which can be contacted on 01723 366451. Please contact the school before 8.40am. It is important that you contact the school on each day of your child's absence, if we do not receive a phone call the attendance team will contact you to make sure your child is safe.

Medical appointments must be made outside school hours where possible and to allow the absence to be authorised a medical appointment card will be needed.

#### **WHAT SUBJECTS WILL MY CHILD STUDY IN YEAR 7 AND HOW OFTEN WILL THEY STUDY THEM?**

Year 7 have a broad curriculum on offer which consists of the subjects listed below. Students will study the subjects each week.

- English
- Maths
- Science
- Computing
- Geography
- History
- Philosophy and Ethics
- Expressive arts (dance & drama)
- Music
- PE
- Modern Foreign Language
- Art
- Technology
- Food/Textiles.

In addition, students also have a 35-minute form tutor session at the start of each day.

**ARE ALL STUDENTS PLACED IN ABILITY GROUPS FOR LESSONS IN YEAR 7?**

Most subject areas are taught in mixed ability groups. Setting can occur in subject areas during other year groups if deemed appropriate. Please refer to the previous published table which outlines the setting and mixed ability element for each year 7 subject.

**MY CHILD HAS A LEARNING NEED. DO I NEED TO CONTACT SCHOOL TO HIGHLIGHT THIS?**

The information transferred from primary school is very detailed and if your child received support in primary school then they will receive support in secondary school.

Our Learning Support Team will contact parents of students in their care to carry out reviews and to gain additional information that will allow us to enhance and individualise the support that your child requires to improve their learning.

If you wish to discuss your child's needs before September you can contact Mr Brown, SENCO at [d.brown@gra.hslt.academy](mailto:d.brown@gra.hslt.academy)

**WHO DO I NEED TO SPEAK WITH TO PASS ON ANY MEDICAL CONCERNS ABOUT MY CHILD?**

We have a medical officer in school who can be contacted on 01723 366451. We would always encourage any medical notifications to be put in writing in addition to a conversation. Medical forms are completed prior to your child starting Graham School, however we must be made aware of any changes throughout the year. We follow NYCC guidance with regards to holding and administering any medication on site.

**MY CHILD IS WORRIED ABOUT DETENTIONS AND OTHER SANCTIONS THAT THEY COULD RECEIVE AT SECONDARY SCHOOL**

Graham School has high expectations of all students. We aim to create an environment that is conducive to learning and without disruption, ensuring high achievement for all. Our expectations are made clear to all students through assemblies, form time and in lessons. Year 7 students will receive information on our sanctions and rewards during their first two days at Graham School through an assembly and during a form time discussion.

**DOES THE SCHOOL PROVIDE ANY OPPORTUNITIES FOR AFTERSCHOOL CLUBS?**

As a school we regularly review our afterschool clubs offer.

A list of afterschool enrichment activities for September is produced, displayed around school and emailed to families. It may be updated throughout the year. We would encourage all students to partake in at least one club.

**TRANSPORT AND COLLECTION WILL THE BUSES DROP OFF MY CHILD DIRECTLY AT SCHOOL?**

Buses will drop off and pick up on the main site adjacent to the student entrances. Buses will aim to leave by 3.25pm each day.

Timetables and prices for the various bus routes can be found in your pack. Graham School has no control over pick up or drop off locations nor does it have any control over fares.



**CAN I COLLECT MY CHILD BY CAR AT THE END OF THE SCHOOL DAY?**

Yes, of course you can. The school day finishes at 3.15pm so collection can be made after that time.

Please note that space is very limited on the school site due to staff parking and the allocation of bus bays.

Parents are not permitted to drive onto the school site at the end of the day to collect students unless there are exceptional circumstances of which are previously agreed with school. Due to the space constraints it is however recommended that parents park along Woodlands Drive and that their children walk to meet them. Children can however be dropped off by car on the school site in the morning in the designated zone.

**CAN MY CHILD CYCLE TO SCHOOL?**

Yes, although the safety of our students is paramount. With this in mind, we do request that all cyclists wear an appropriate helmet and that they dismount from their bikes on entering the school site. No bike should be ridden whilst on the school site for any reason. We do provide a covered cycle shed for the use of all students. Bikes should be left secured whilst on site.

We would advise that new Year 7 students carry out a few trial runs of their journey during the summer holidays to ensure that they are familiar with the surroundings.

GRAHAM SCHOOL IS PART OF



**HEARTWOOD**  
LEARNING TRUST

LIFE IN ALL ITS FULLNESS  
A PLACE TO THRIVE

## *Our Trust's Vision & Values*

We are a strong, inclusive and collaborative Church of England multi-academy trust of fourteen church, community and alternative provision schools. Guided by our Christian ethos and values of kindness, respect and teamwork, we welcome students, colleagues and schools of all faiths and none.

**We share a clear vision** – 'to create schools where children and young people thrive, as we help them prepare to live life in all its fullness'.

For us, a place to thrive means much more than a place simply to be comfortable. Instead, our aim is to develop schools and an educational offer which enable each student to flourish academically, practically, emotionally, socially and spiritually. We help them to understand what their own successful and fulfilled life could be, by opening doors, providing choice, and encouraging ambition.

**KINDNESS | RESPECT | TEAMWORK**

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