

## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS - TRANSITION**

### **When is the start of term?**

For Year 7 the start of the school term is always the day before the other years returning to school. For 2026 entry the first day will be Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September.

For all future [term dates](#) please refer to our website

### **What time does school start/finish?**

The school day starts at 8.40am with registration and school finishes at 15.35. The school is open from 8am and pupils can enter the school via the canteen. Hot and cold food in the canteen is available to purchase via our cashless catering system from 8am-8.25am. There are 7 timetabled lessons during the day with a break at 11.15am and lunch is from 13.05 -14.05pm

### **Do you have any after school provision including after school clubs?**

The library is open in the morning before school for reading/homework club as well as after school until 4.30pm Monday to Thursday and until 4pm on a Friday. There are also a variety of after school clubs that pupils can attend including sports, arts, dance, drama, and music clubs. Full details of all the of extra-curricular activities can be found [here](#) and students do not have to register to attend these. Most lunchtime clubs begin at 1.20pm and most after school clubs finish at 4.45pm.

### **When will I find out my child's Form information?**

We will send out Form information in the summer term, and they will be placed in either North Wing or South Wing as well as a House. There are 4 Houses including Bason (Blue), Harris (Yellow) Kay (Green) and Walker (White)

There will be an opportunity for you to request for your child to be placed with other students, but we cannot guarantee this as there are a variety of different factors that we use to place your child in the correct form.

## **How are Forms structured at Northampton School?**

Most lessons will be taught in streamed sets with others being in mixed ability groups. Students will only have lessons with students in the same wing. Your child will be placed in a Form for registration, but they will not always be in the same lessons as all students in their Form.

## **Will you visit my child's primary school?**

We will be visiting some primary schools, and we will be contacting your Primary school Headteacher to ask if anyone requires an enhanced transition to secondary school.

Where appropriate visits will be made to primary school however unfortunately we are unable to visit every primary school. Please do not be concerned by this, we find that for most students the Transition Day and the first few days of school in September is more than sufficient in preparing them for life at Northampton School.

## **Will my child have an opportunity to visit the school before the start of term?**

There is a transition day planned for the 6<sup>th</sup> July 2026 where your child will be able to attend the school and take part in some activities designed to help them find their way around school and familiarise themselves with the environment before starting in September.

There is also a Parent Information evening in July to provide you with more information about the school, what to expect, uniform standards, planned trips and more.

## **Is there a school bus to Northampton School?**

Unfortunately, there is no school bus to Northampton School. However, some pupils get the public bus. Please find attached a bus timetable link provided by West Northamptonshire Council - [Bus timetables | West Northamptonshire Council](#).

Other transport arrangements include a mixture of car share and parent drop off/pick up at the school as well as use of convenient locations in the local area for drop/off and pick up to avoid the increasing volume of traffic.

## **Where do I order school uniform?**

All items of school uniform purchased from SWI should ideally be ordered by the end of July and paid directly to them at the time of ordering, in order to guarantee delivery to parents before the start of term. Delivery is free to your home address for orders over £75 and a free returns service is offered.

A list of the items of required and compulsory school uniform and the school's Appearance and Uniform policy can be found on our school [website](#). We will provide examples of what is and isn't acceptable at our Parents' Transition Evening in July.

The school tie and badge if required should be purchased in advance on parent pay.

The coloured year stripe should be sewn on to your child's blazer across the top of the pocket above the school badge and will be given out at Parents Information evening.

### **When will I meet my child's Tutor?**

The Meet the Tutor evening will take place in mid-October, and further information will be shared on this nearer to the date. The presentations will cover some of the important information you need to know following the start of the term and will provide you with an opportunity to put a face to a name with regards to your child's Form Tutor.

You can use also the [contact us](#) section on the school website and a member of the school team will get back to you.

### **What apps does the school use and for what purposes?**

Northampton School use an app and web-based product called EduLink One which includes information on your child's timetable, attendance, homework, parents and carers evening information, reports and club cancellations.

Class Charts is the system that we use to log rewards and sanctions, in other words positive and negative interactions whilst at school. This system records all House points, commendations, outstanding certificates, warnings and detentions.

ParentPay is the cashless system used to pay for food in the school canteen, school trips, music lessons and other miscellaneous items. You may be familiar with this, or similar systems, from primary school or if you have older children who already attend secondary school. The principle of the system is to remove cash from the school environment and to increase the speed of service in the dining facilities at mealtimes. Each student is set up with a user account which can be credited with money and can then be spent in the school catering outlets or school shop. We also hope it will improve the way students manage their own finances.

Further details of how to access these will be provided in due course.

### **How can I register my child for music lessons?**

You will be sent an electronic form to complete information about your child's current interest/experience in music and then you will be asked if you would like to book lessons during the school day. A session a week will be scheduled into your child's

timetable at a different time each week and this will be added to your ParentPay account.

### **Are there any school trips?**

There is a Year 8 school residential trip to Conover Hall in October as well as future school trips to Iceland and a Ski trip to Austria in Years 8-10. These are subject to change in future years.

### **My child has SEND and medical needs how do I let you know?**

Please complete the form sent to you on March 1<sup>st</sup> following the offer letter. If you need this link again, please click [here](#). This will then be shared with our SENCO and First aid staff as appropriate in preparation for the start of term in September.

### **How do I let you know about my child's performing arts experience?**

Please complete the form sent to you on March 1<sup>st</sup> following the offer letter. If you need this link again, please click [here](#). This will then be shared with our Performing Arts teams in preparation for the start of term in September.

### **How do I let you know about my child's sport experience?**

Please complete the form sent to you on March 1<sup>st</sup> following the offer letter. If you need this link again, please click [here](#). This will then be shared with our Head of PE as appropriate in preparation for the start of term in September