



Ashton Community Science College

A SCHOOL TO BE PROUD OF

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June 2024

Dear Parent/Carer of students who will be joining the School in September 2024

As mentioned in my previous letter in March, I am now able to confirm the following arrangements:

House and Form Allocation

This year there will be six Form Groups in Year 7 (7A, 7S, 7H, 7T, 7O, 7N). Every effort has been made to ensure all classes have a good balance of girls and boys, ability levels and student interests, and, where possible, most students have been placed in a class with one or two familiar faces from the same primary school. Students have also been allocated a house group and this is reflected on the embroidered jumpers that are part of our uniform. When purchasing your child's jumper, please make sure you know which house they have been assigned to.

You will receive information on which form and house your child has been allocated to at the Parents' Evening on 27th June, so it is important you attend.

All Y7 students will be taught in their mixed (prior attainment) form groups. This will allow the children time to re-establish old friendships and to form new links within their form group. Teaching staff will continually monitor and assess students to ensure they are progressing through the curriculum at the standard expected. High expectations will be a feature of all lessons and where appropriate, learning will be scaffolded.

Uniform

Once you receive the House your child has been allocated to, you will no doubt start purchasing their uniform. This is a costly exercise and, as our students move classrooms at the end of each lesson and use the halls and changing rooms, items are regularly left behind. Please could you put your child's name in their uniform/sports kit and also their coat and bag. During the year, we end up with vast amounts of lost property with no way of knowing who it belongs to. It is much easier to return lost property to its rightful owner if it is named.

New Parents' Evening

A Parents' Evening will be held on Thursday 27th June at 6.00 pm in the new school hall.

Seating is limited to 190 seats, maximum, so we ask that only one parent/carer attends with their child. Year 6 children will spend time with their Form Tutor and Head of Year whilst parents are in the hall. Parents will receive information regarding the school policies etc at this event.

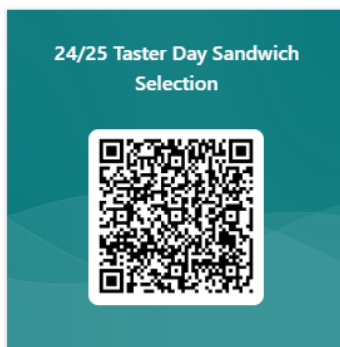


Induction Day

All our new Year 7 students are invited to attend an induction day on Monday 1st July. They will take part in a day of activities and get to spend time with their forms and familiarise themselves with the school. They will also undertake a series of baseline assessments in preparation for September during the course of the day.

School begins at 8.40 am and they should aim to arrive by 8.30 am. They will be directed to the tennis court and will be greeted by Mrs Barrow and Mrs Barker. Drop off and pick up times are the busiest times of day and to ensure the safety of our students, we ask that parents do not drive onto the school premises. Nearby roads offer plenty of unrestricted parking and we would ask that you park locally and walk into school to drop your child off or collect them.

Lunch will be provided on this day and will consist of a sandwich selection (ham, cheese or tuna), a sweet snack (cookie or cake) and a drink. To help with food ordering, please use this link <https://forms.office.com/e/bRmatchkxe0> to select a choice of sandwich or scan the QR code below. If your child has any specific dietary requirements, then please let us know in advance so they can be catered for. You are of course welcome to provide a packed lunch for your child if you wish to.



To ease your child into life at secondary school, over the summer holidays, we ask all Year 7 students to complete a transition work booklet which will be given to them on induction day or posted home to them if they cannot attend. The booklet includes activities and tasks from all our different departments in school. Your child should work through the pages at their own pace, **but the booklet needs to be brought back into school every day during the first week of term as its content will form the basis of their very first lessons.** We very much hope you and your child enjoy experiencing a taste of our high school curriculum.

Additionally, we have provided optional supplementary learning resources for all Y6 students, in order to get them "high school ready" for the three core subjects of English, Maths and Science. Detailed information from each subject is outlined in the school **TRANSITION** folder which can be found under the **STUDENT** heading on the school website.

Please use the Transition area of the website and the full website itself to guide you throughout your child's first year at school, as we will post any letters, important dates or documents here. There is also the facility for parents to ask questions via the admissions support form at the bottom of the transition area, so please use this if you have any questions or concerns; we are only too happy to help.

Equipment Packs and Calculators

At Ashton, we expect all students to be organised each day for their lessons which includes having the correct equipment. School sells fully equipped packs which includes a maths geometry set (but not the calculator) and represents very good value for money.

The Maths department asks that all students purchase their own scientific calculator. The model that we use in school is the **Casio FX-83GT-CW**. This calculator and a maths equipment set can be purchased from school.

Option 1	Equipment Pack containing geometry set	£7.50
Option 2	Calculator and geometry set only	£10.00
Option 3	Equipment Pack containing geometry set and calculator	£15.50

If you wish to purchase the equipment packs from school, you can pay using school's Parent-Pay facility. Information on accessing ParentPay will be given to you separately at Parents' Evening. All packs bought via school will be ready for the children to collect on their first day in September. Alternatively, you can buy your own equipment but please refer to the equipment list below to ensure your child has every item they will need each day.

Equipment Packs /calculators will also be available to purchase at Parents' Evening on the 27th June, but this will be Cash Only and we would ask that you bring the right amount as change will not be available. This cash purchase option is only available at Parents' Evening. Please order via ParentPay if you wish to purchase at any other time.

Equipment packs contain:

- Black pen
- Blue pen
- Green pen
- Red pen
- Highlighter
- Pencil
- 30 cm Ruler
- Rubber
- Sharpener
- Scissors (rounded safety)
- Whiteboard
- White board pen
- Whiteboard rubber
- Colouring pencils
- Maths Geometry set (15 cm ruler, 45 and 60 degree set squares and 180 degree protractor)
- Robust pencil case large enough to hold equipment

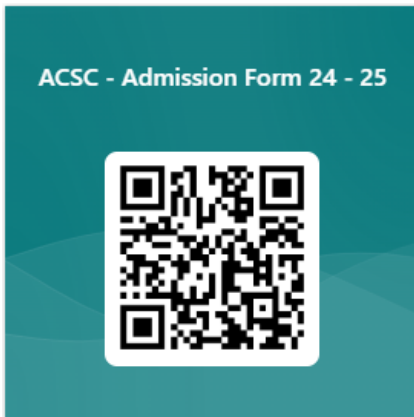
Students will also be expected to attend school with a school bag that can accommodate both equipment packs and school books. Small handbags are not acceptable as a school bag.

Having correct equipment ensures a prompt start to lessons and also encourages the students to be more responsible.

Admission Forms

In my previous letter, I asked that the admission form be completed by Friday 24th May. Some have been completed for which I thank you. We do however have a number outstanding which now need to be completed as a matter of urgency so we can complete the admission preparations for your child. It is essential that this form is completed and returned to us so that we have the information we need to admit your child in September. If we have not yet received your form, an

additional copy is attached to this letter or you can complete it electronically via the following link <https://forms.office.com/e/jq0dbw96XE> or by scanning the QR Code below with your mobile device:



And finally...

All new Year 7 students will start school on **Tuesday 3rd September**. They need to arrive by 8.30 am for a prompt **8.40 am** start and they will be met by Mrs Barrow, Mrs Barker and their form tutor upon their arrival.

In order to further remove some of the anxiety for the children, we have put together a series of "Frequently Asked Questions" which are typical of Y6 students in transition, and we have attempted to answer them in such a way to give a flavour of life at Ashton. These are enclosed and this can be a very useful exercise to do with your children over the summer break. For now, we would like to wish you all a very happy and healthy summer break and look forward to welcoming you all to our school family soon.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "S. Asquith".

Miss S Asquith
Headteacher