



LONGBENTON
HIGH SCHOOL

Year 7 WELCOME PACK
FOR PARENTS/CARERS
September 2026



For further information please find the transition section of our school website





Longbenton
HIGH SCHOOL

Welcome!

**We are proud to
welcome students
this September
from...**

- ★ Amberley Primary
- ★ Backworth Park Primary
- ★ Bailey Green Primary
- ★ Balliol Primary
- ★ Benton Dene Primary
- ★ Benton Park Primary
- ★ Burradon Community Primary
- ★ Carville Primary
- ★ Chillingham Road Primary
- ★ Denbigh Primary
- ★ Forest Hall Primary
- ★ Grasmere Academy
- ★ Holystone Primary
- ★ Ivy Road Primary
- ★ Ravenswood
- ★ Redesdale Primary
- ★ Shiremoor Primary
- ★ St Bartholomew's CofE Primary
- ★ St Mary's Catholic Primary
- ★ St Stephen's Catholic Primary
- ★ Wallsend Jubilee Primary
- ★ Westmoor Primary

The purpose of this document is to guide you through the information you will need as new Year 7 parents (our full parent guide will be issued in the summer term).

We are a fully inclusive school and we have the highest aspirations for and expectations of our students, regardless of their starting points. We aim to instil our core KIDMAP values - kindness, integrity, determination, manners, ambition and positivity - from day one.

We hope that the years your children spend with us will be happy ones and look forward to an enjoyable and fulfilling relationship with you as parents and families.

Kat Lambert

Associate Assistant Headteacher - leader of transition and years 7-8.

As Acting Headteacher, I am delighted to welcome our new students and their families to Longbenton High School. The transition to secondary school is a significant milestone, and we offer a comprehensive programme to make this journey smooth, supportive, and exciting.

We are committed to working closely with you and your child's primary school to ensure we have the necessary information to provide the right level of support for their academic and personal progress. I look forward to meeting you all soon and welcoming our new Year 7 students for their first official day on 2nd September.

Joe Elliott

Acting Headteacher



WELCOME TO LONGBENTON HIGH SCHOOL

The transition from primary to secondary school is an important milestone in the lives of children and their families. At Longbenton High School we pride ourselves on providing our new students, parents and carers with a smooth and extensive transition programme. We want all students to arrive on their first day in September excited about the next chapter in their education.



We want students to develop new friendships, increase their confidence and get used to their new routines and school organisation with ease. We aim to enrich their learning experiences by providing them with new opportunities and challenges, along with practical skills and knowledge to be confident, well qualified individuals, ready for employment, training or the next steps in their education. We believe the local community and families deserve a brilliant school and we are committed to helping our young people to *evolve, create, discover, perform and achieve.*



Longbenton
HIGH SCHOOL

OUR SCHOOL BLUEPRINT

OUR PURPOSE	Opening doors, offering opportunities, delivering outcomes
OUR PRINCIPLES	Social mobility and social justice, belonging and inclusion
OUR MANTRA	Evolve, create, discover, perform, achieve
OUR VALUES	KIDMAP: kindness, integrity, determination, manners, ambition, positivity





Longbenton
HIGH SCHOOL

FIRST STEPS IN YOUR TRANSITION JOURNEY

Now that you have been allocated a place at Longbenton High School we can start to liaise with your primary schools. We work very closely with your child's Year 6 teacher, school SENCO and other key staff to ensure we have all the required information to enable us to fully support your child's academic progress. During these visits, we give your child the opportunity to hear more about life at Longbenton High School and to answer questions they have about their next steps.

We invite all of our parents in very early prior to the Easter holidays each year so that we can start to get to know you, give you information as early as possible and provide an opportunity for students to see our building again prior to transition events and visits beginning in the summer term.

Please find key information regarding transition on our school website.









Induction is when young people start school and go through the first few days of the new term.

Transition is the process by which we get people ready to come to school over a longer period, so they get used to it over time. We try to create as much contact between Easter and September as follows.

Support	Who	When	Where
National Offer Day: school places offered. North Tyneside handle our admissions.	Parents	2nd March	
Welcome Event: An opportunity for students to meet key staff and other students starting in Year 7; to outline the transition process with parents.	All	Tuesday 31st March	LHS
Uniform pre-order: If you wish to pay in 3 installments for logoed uniform (blazer, tie, PE kit) please come to our main school office to place your order and pay a deposit wb 4th May. A payment schedule will be given to you when you order. Timings as follows: 4.30-5.30pm Tuesday 5th May 8-9am Wednesday 6th May 4.30-5.30pm Thursday 7th May	All	Wb 4th May	LHS
Primary School Data Collection: A spreadsheet is used to collect data on pupils transferring to us. This data collection also includes details of any vulnerable students (something we call 'enhanced transition'). Our SENCO will make contact with primary school SENCOs by the end of April with a view to collate information on SEND students.	LHS and primary school staff	April onwards	
Primary School Data Collection meetings: Visits to primary schools to meet Y6 teachers to get further information on each student transferring to LHS.	Pastoral staff SEND Team; Senior staff	May onwards	Primary schools
Group Work Session: A small group work session with our Y7 Pastoral Manager with the aim of getting to know pupils feeling anxious around transition. We will liaise with primary school teachers to plan these sessions.	Pastoral Staff	TBC/VariouS	Primary school
Period 6: Opportunities for Year 6 to attend period 6 Inspire sessions (extra curricular clubs) at our school, these run from 3.15-4 pm. Our big feeder schools will be given a day to attend and they will come as a full cohort. Parents from our smaller feeder schools will be sent a Google form to arrange attendance at our Inspire clubs. If you have any questions about our Inspire offer please contact us directly at transition@longbenton.org.uk	Year 6 students	May half term onwards	LHS

<p>New Intake Parents' Meetings: New Intake Parents' meetings This is an <i>optional</i> appointment for you and your child to have a 1:1 meeting with a member of staff. We will already have the relevant academic and pastoral information from your child's primary school, but if you would like to discuss any of your child's needs further in advance of September this provides another point of contact. This may be linked to safeguarding concerns, SEND issues or general concerns.</p>	All	Summer term	LHS
<p>Small feeder school morning: The morning focuses upon familiarising students with the school and allows a chance for students to get to know others who are coming alone/in small group to LHS to make them feel more at ease prior to the main transition days. Invitations will go to these students / families via the primary school. The event will run from 9.30-11.30am. Students should come in their primary school uniform.</p>	Primaries with less than 5 students attending	29th June	LHS
<p>Transition + morning: Our SEND and/or vulnerable students will be invited to our Transition+ event. The morning focuses upon familiarising students with the school and its routines, alongside team-building. This event will be coordinated by our SEND team . Invitations will go directly to these students / families. The event will run from 9.30-11.30am. Students should come in their primary school uniform.</p>	Identified students agreed between LHS and primaries.	30th June	LHS
<p>Transition Day 1: Year 6 need to arrive at Longbenton High School at 8.40am wearing their usual primary school uniform. Parents should leave students at the school gate and students are to come through the main doors. It would be helpful if students could bring some basic equipment (pen, pencil, ruler) if they have it. They will finish at 3.15pm.</p> <p>When Year 6 students arrive at school there will be staff and older students welcoming them and they will be directed to the main hall. All students will spend the day in their tutor groups, spending time working with their form tutor and other members of staff. Year 6 will experience a year group assembly, a range of lessons, spend lunchtime in the secondary environment and start to immerse themselves in the secondary way of life.</p> <p>The food on offer in the canteen is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● beef & vegetable noodles. ● Veg dish: vegetable stir-fry ● Street Food: Burger bowl with diced potato & salad ● There will also be goujon wraps and paninis and pasta. <p>Students are, of course, able to bring in a packed lunch. If you are in receipt of Free School Meals you will not be charged.</p>	All	2nd July	LHS

<p>Transition Day 2: Year 6 need to arrive at Longbenton High School at 8.40am wearing their primary school PE kit. Parents should leave students at the school gate and students are to come through the main doors. It would be helpful if they could bring some basic equipment with them. They will finish at 3.15pm. During the day there will be a House 'reveal' - students will find out which of our 4 houses they have been assigned to (and which colour tie they will therefore need for September). Students will complete a PSHE lesson in their tutor group and will then be with students in their house completing different activities/competitions to gain points for their team. We will have an assembly at the end of the day to announce our House Champion!</p> <p>The food on offer in the canteen is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Main dish: fish and chips ● Veg dish: veg quiche ● Street Food: tandoori loaded fries with mint and yoghurt dressing. ● There will also pizzas pannis and pasta <p>Students are, of course, able to bring in a packed lunch. If you are in receipt of Free School Meals you will not be charged.</p>	All	3rd July	LHS
<p>£5 covers lunch from the canteen for Transition Day 1 and 2 - we ask that students either bring £5 cash with them on transition day 1, a bank card they could use at the canteen tills or parents can bring £5 cash to the main school office on the first transition day if they are dropping off their child.</p>			
<p>Uniform Shop: We will be running a uniform pop up pre loved uniform shop for any families who are interested in picking up some good quality pre-loved uniform. This includes PE kit, blazers, shirts and jumpers. Voluntary contributions for pre-loved uniform goes directly in to our school fund Check our website for times</p>	Parents	Tuesday 7th July Wednesday 8th July Thursday 9th July	LHS
<p>Starting High School - Year 7 only in school</p> <p>Students need to arrive at school from 8.15am for a 8.45am start in full uniform. They will not need to bring in any PE kit on their first day. Students will start the day in tutor groups and will spend some time with their new class. They will be issued with their timetable and will then follow this to experience lessons during the school day.</p> <p>Year 7 will be the only year group in school on this date. This staggered start enables us to concentrate on really getting to know and support the cohort.</p> <p>From 11.30am Parents are invited into school for lunch on their first day to experience the food from the canteen, meet key staff from the Senior Leadership and Pastoral Leadership teams and your child's tutor. This is also a chance to gain information regarding secondary expectations including homework and our behaviour policy, supporting your child through transition, how to use MCAS app and for us to answer any questions you may have.</p>	All	2nd September	LHS

Parent Checklist - what you need to do before the end of the summer term	QR code link	Done?	
1:1 parent meeting	Please complete this form if you wish to book a 1:1 meeting to discuss SEND, safeguarding concern or general issues you think we should be aware of		
Transition day planning Please complete by 31st May	Please complete this form so we have vital information about your child prior to the transition days. Information includes whether your child is in receipt of free school meals, photo permission, medical issues and how your child will go home at the end of the transition days		
First day parent/carer lunch and welcome talk by 19th June	Please complete this form if you are able to attend the parent/carer lunch, meet the tutor event and information talk on Wednesday 2nd September from 11.30am - 1.30pm.		
Purchase Uniform	Purchase specific branded uniform items from Emblematic, this includes blazers, ties and PE kit. Up to date prices can be found on their website https://emblematic.co.uk/longbenton-store/ In addition to Emblematic, we do sell ties in school should you wish to purchase these directly from us. Please remember we offer a service for you to pay for the uniform in 3 instalments (May - July) at our main school office. We also intend to run a pre loved pop up uniform shop		
Data collection sheet Please complete by 6th July	Make sure the data your primary school holds for your child is up to date and correct - this is transferred to us when your child joins in September and we will use these details. Information to check that is correct: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Legal name ● Address ● Email address ● Telephone number ● Another emergency contact ● Photo permissions ● Parental Responsibility ● Medical needs Don't worry if something changes over the summer holiday you will be able to amend it on MCAS app or at our main office.		
Facial recognition Please complete by 13th July	Have you completed the consent for the facial recognition software to be activated for the first day of term?		
Free school meal entitlement	If you feel you may be eligible for free school meals please complete this form on the North Tyneside website		

How we will communicate with you

We use an electronic communication and payment system called My Child At School (MCAS). MCAS enables you to receive information from school securely, quickly and reliably as well as make payments for dinners, clubs and trips. MCAS is an online portal providing access to information from school via any modern web browser as well as a free app which can be enabled with push notifications to ensure you receive timely information.

You will be able to:

- receive letters reliably and promptly
- get a short app message if we need to contact you urgently
- see your child's timetable for the current week
- update your child's medical information, personal information and your own contact details
- top-up your child's lunch account securely, quickly and easily, as well as monitor their spending
- pay for trips, clubs and other purchases
- access assessment reports
- access live lesson attendance information
- access information regarding positive and negative behaviour

We can:

- share more information regarding your child/ren
- save money on admin time, texts, printing and paper.

Instructions on how to set up and register your MCAS account will be sent to you in the summer term so your account can be set up ready for the new academic year. If you already have the MCAS app for your child at their current school, you will be able to add the account for Longbenton High School to the same app.

We have the following main points of contact for Year 7:

- ★ **Meet the tutor evening:** opportunity to meet your child's tutor in October and discuss how they have settled in
- ★ **Year 7 Parents Evening:** usually in the Summer Term, to meet your child's teachers and discuss academic progress (you will receive a written update/report each term)

We also share news via our website and social media channels on

[Instagram](#)

[Facebook](#)

[Twitter/X](#)



How we ask parents to communicate with us

In a school with over 1,000 students, with multiple members of staff in contact with your child, for non-urgent contact we advise you **email us in the first instance** (please refer to the table on the following page). The main point of contact before your child starts in September is transition@longbenton.org.uk From September it is year7@longbenton.org.uk

We ask that you **always make an appointment first** - please do not just turn up at reception expecting to see staff.

We also ask that you acknowledge the fact that we will be best placed to know who the right person is to speak to about your issue. This may not always be a senior member of staff in the first instance.



We believe uniform can play a key role in: • Promoting the ethos of a school • Providing a sense of belonging and identity • Setting an appropriate tone for education.

By creating a common identity amongst all students, regardless of background, a school uniform can act as a social leveller. It can reduce bullying and peer pressure to wear the latest fashions or other expensive clothes. We must insist that all students follow the correct uniform to ensure fairness to all. Our uniform policy has been devised with due consideration of the statutory guidance from the Department for Education. Beyond our blazer and tie, uniform can be purchased from a range of supermarkets and department stores to suit family budgets - we have tried to keep it as affordable as possible.

We appreciate that parents will want to start purchasing new uniform; we would advise you to wait a few more months (to allow for growth!) if possible.

Don't forget we have pre-loved uniform on offer in July and there is a payment system for new uniform to spread the cost.

- School Blazer with badge
- Plain black V neck jumper - this must not be a sweatshirt or with a rounded collar. This item of uniform is optional - the blazer is not.
- Plain white shirt with collar
- Black trousers or black skirt, underwear should not be visible
- Black or white socks or black tights
- Black shoes, this can include all black trainers with no white markings or logos, low heeled black shoes and flat black ankle boots (please ask when purchasing footwear if you are unsure)
- Striped clip on tie, this will be matched to the students house (you will be informed of your child's house when we arrange tutor groups in the summer term)
- Full details are [here](#) on our website.



Our main uniform supplier is [Emblematic](#)





MOBILE PHONES / SMARTPHONES

At Longbenton High School we have created a distinctive culture with respect to mobile phone use and screens, one which intentionally limits and restricts mobile phone use in order to prioritise deeper knowledge and face to face relationships. Students **will have to hand their phones in to staff each morning if they bring a phone to school.**

If you are interested in finding out more in the meantime, please check out <https://smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk/> The website contains support and resources for parents considering delaying smartphones until Year 9 (which we would recommend).



Why have we taken this approach here? Our main rationale is as follows:

1. There has been an explosion of mental illness in Generation Z (the generation that grew up with smartphones). Multiple studies from across the world have found a correlation between teen depression, anxiety and excessive smartphone use.
2. We know that the research basis tells us: smartphones are linked to anxiety and depression; smartphones expose children to extreme safeguarding risks (UK children are being exposed to violent and sexual imagery, grooming, cyberbullying and sexting); smartphones impair attainment (they are designed to distract attention and increase dependency; schools which ban phones have higher exam outcomes).
3. As teachers and school leaders, we have dealt with countless negative situations involving the use of smartphones and social media amongst the student population. Students are bringing their phone-based behaviour patterns into school, which is causing classroom conflict, cyberbullying and distraction from learning.
4. Children spend more time in school than in any other place outside their home; we have a duty to protect them from harmful influences via smartphones.



LONGBENTON
HIGH SCHOOL

SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD WITH THE MOVE TO SECONDARY SCHOOL

Moving from primary to secondary school is exciting – a rite of passage. But it can also be a daunting or anxious time. For children with SEND or mental health difficulties, the change may be particularly challenging. If you feel your child might need more support, your primary school may flag this to us, but you can also let us know via transition@longbenton.org.uk

As a parent there is much you can do to help your child manage the transition to secondary and minimise anxiety, whatever their situation. Chat about how they are feeling and how it will be different from primary – for instance a bigger site, new people, changing teachers and rooms for subjects, more homework. Reassure them that nerves about starting something new are normal, as is some sadness at leaving familiar things, and that these feelings usually subside. But be careful not to impose your own worries.

Focus on exciting opportunities too – new subjects, activities and friends. Celebrating the milestone of finishing primary school, and all the ways they have grown, can boost self-esteem and confidence. There is more advice for parents on the [Young Minds blog](#)



Your child will be spending the next 7 years with us if they stay in our sixth form; they will be the Class of 2033! Our key aim is to work with you to support them as they discover who they are and what they want to be. Getting the transition into Year 7 is crucial in ensuring their time with us is as positive and enriching as possible.

“ My son has SEN and had no primary friends. I was fearful, but he awes me with resilience from things being a struggle. Secondary has meant a bigger pool of possible friends. I am so proud of how he’s doing. ”

“ We talked about my memories of starting secondary – how I felt daunted too – and about ways he could distract himself if worried. ”

“ Listen to their anxieties and questions, whatever they are. Answer truthfully. If you don’t know, try to find out together from school, internet or friends. ”

“ Let them know that it takes a while to settle into new things and that even if the first days or weeks aren’t great, that doesn’t mean it will always feel like that. ”

Term dates



North Tyneside Council

North Tyneside Council

Term and Holiday dates 2026 - 27

2026	July	August	September	October	November	December
Monday	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30	7 14 21 28
Tuesday	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24	1 8 15 22 29
Wednesday	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	2 9 16 23 30
Thursday	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	3 10 17 24 31
Friday	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25
Saturday	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26
Sunday	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29	6 13 20 27

2027	January	February	March	April	May	June
Monday	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28
Tuesday	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29
Wednesday	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30
Thursday	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24
Friday	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25
Saturday	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26
Sunday	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27

2027	July	August	September
Monday	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27
Tuesday	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28
Wednesday	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29
Thursday	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30
Friday	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24 31
Saturday	3 10 17 24 31	1 7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25
Sunday	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26

Term Profile		
Term	Days	Weeks
Autumn 1	39	7.8
Autumn 2	35	7
Spring 1	30	6
Spring 2	24	4.8
Summer 1	34	6.8
Summer 2	33	6.6
Total	195	39.0

Bank Holiday
School Holiday
Weekend
Local Election

190 Pupil day calendar, term time window 195 days

5 days to be taken as training days.

Teacher Training Dates are at the discretion of each school

Autumn term 2027 likely to start on Wednesday 1st September 2027.

Longbenton High School will issue dates of training days in the near future.



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Longbenton High School

We are committed to making the transition to secondary school a positive, exciting experience and to giving our new students the best possible start. To ensure you receive the most relevant and up-to-date information, please continue to check the 'Transition' pages on our website. All updates and key details will be posted there.



Uniform

Our branded uniform is available from Emblematic, this includes blazers, ties and PE kit. Up to date prices can be found on their website <https://emblematic.co.uk/longbenton-store/>. In addition to Emblematic, we do sell ties in school should you wish to purchase these directly from us - on the second transition day your child will find out what house they are in which dictates the colour tie they should wear.



We can offer a service for you to pay in instalments for uniforms. There will be 3 payments (May-July) made to our school office for uniform - upon receipt of full payment we will order the uniform. See information on page 6.

We also can support with uniform through our pre-loved uniform shop see information on page 8.

Key contacts

We appreciate that transition to secondary school can be an anxious time. If you have any further questions, please do contact us at the school, either directly at transition@longbenton.org.uk or via the school office on 0191 2189500. Here is a reminder of the staffing and key contacts for Year 7 from September - your child will find out their tutor on their first full transition day.

Senior leader - Kat Lambert - Associate Assistant Headteacher - Transition, year 7 and 8

Middle leader - Mark Wilkinson - Year leader y7-8

Pastoral manager - TBC (the pastoral manager follows students until the end of year 11)

Deputy SENCO - Key Stage 3 - Amy Blackburn will return in the Autumn term. (Janine Barker - maternity cover)

Becoming secondary ready

There are also some useful online resources for parents at the following links to share with your child



If you have friends and family who have children currently in Year 5, please make them aware that our Open Evening for the Year 7 intake starting secondary school in September 2026 will be on **Tuesday 22nd September 2026**. We will be running tours in September and October, as in previous years - information will be available on our website soon.

We hope this information pack has been helpful.