



## **Whytrig Middle School FAQs**

### **HOW LONG IS THE SCHOOL DAY?**

Typically, the school day starts at 8.50am and finishes at 3.30pm. However, more recently, times have been adjusted for staggered starts as a result of COVID. Any changes for September 2021 would be communicated fully to all parents and carers before the start of the term, as well as publicised on our website.

### **CAN I RIDE MY BIKE TO SCHOOL?**

You can ride your bike to school. There are bike stands to the left of the front entrance where you can store it, but the school will not accept responsibility for your bike. All bikes should be well maintained and roadworthy and your child must wear a helmet when cycling to school.

### **HOW LONG ARE LESSONS?**

Typically, lessons are 1 hour long. However, at present, times have been adjusted to reopen and to be COVID secure. Any changes for September 2021 would be communicated fully to all parents and carers before the start of the term, as well as publicised on our website.

### **HOW MANY LESSONS ARE THERE PER DAY?**

Typically, there are 5 lessons in each day that cover the full range of the National Curriculum for Key Stages 2 (and KS3). However, at present, timetables have been adjusted to reopen and to be COVID secure. Any changes for September 2021 would be communicated fully to all parents and carers before the start of the term, as well as publicised on our website.

### **DOES THE SCHOOL OPERATE A ONE-WEEK OR A TWO-WEEK TIMETABLE?**

Typically, the school operates a one-week timetable that consists of 5 lessons per day. However, at present, timetables have been adjusted to reopen and to be COVID secure. Any changes for September 2021 would be communicated fully to all parents and carers before the start of the term, as well as publicised on our website.

## **HOW WILL I FIND MY WAY AROUND SCHOOL?**

During the transition process, students are guided around school by staff to get to know our site. When students start the school, this process is repeated. Students will find very quickly that they start to remember their way around, but they can always ask if they are unsure as other students and staff are happy to help. Most of our Year 5 lessons take place in form classes, so the need to move around the school is very small. When there is, for example for PE lessons, the children are collected by the member of staff and taken to other parts of the site. Teachers are sensitive to the fact that Year 5 and any new starters need to acclimatise to the school's layout.

## **HOW LONG IS LUNCHTIME?**

Lunch is 12.10-13.05. Year 5 start 10 minutes ahead of the rest of the school initially and this allows them to learn the lunchtime routine and get to the front of the queues, meaning that, whilst they are transitioning to middle school, they have that little longer to eat.

## **HOW DO I KNOW WHAT UNIFORM TO BUY?**

Wearing a uniform creates a sense of community and we believe ours is both practical and fair. We are proud of our uniform and it is fully listed on the school's website, including links to our main supplier, Emblematic . All parents and carers will also be sent information in regard to uniform via induction packs.

## **AM I ALLOWED TO WEAR JEWELLERY?**

The only jewellery permitted in school is a watch and one plain stud in each ear. They must be small and discreet.

## **WHEN DO I FIND OUT WHO MY CLASS TEACHER IS?**

Organising the classes is a very complex task, but we hope to let you know who your tutor is by the transition days in July.

## **WHAT DO I NEED TO BRING ON MY FIRST DAY?**

On their first day, students will be given the correct equipment from the equipment list from the school. Basic equipment includes a pen, pencil and ruler and a plastic case to keep them in. Students will be provided with a planner, which they should bring to school every day. On their first day, students should also bring a packed lunch or money to buy food at the canteen. We will ensure students have a fingerprint taken as, typically, we operate a cashless system in the canteen.

### **WHAT IF I GET LOST ON THE WAY TO LESSONS?**

This should not be a possibility because of the way lessons in Year 5 are structured and because staff collect students for lessons when movement is required, but if a student did get lost on the way to a lesson, they should just ask someone. Whether that is a student or member of staff, there are always many people to ask. Everyone is friendly, approachable and willing to help.

### **WHAT IF I GET BULLIED AT SCHOOL?**

If a member of our school community behaves in an inappropriate way towards students, then it is really important that they tell somebody. This person could be a friend, parents/carers, their Class Teacher, another teacher or their Year Group Leader. Students must tell somebody so that we can swiftly deal with the situation.

### **WHERE DO I GO IF I NEED HELP?**

If students need help, they can go to Student Reception, their Class Teacher or their Year Group Leader. Teachers are also more than willing to help!