

Getting Ready for September 2026!

Transition Newsletter 5

We had a fantastic time during our recent Transition Days and really enjoyed meeting the students and their families. We were so impressed with the students' behaviour and attitude throughout the three days. The students took part in a range of taster lessons, including Maths, English, Art, Spanish, Wellbeing, RE and many more. They started their SPARKLE challenge which is a stepping stone into their SHINE Project that they work on throughout Y7.

The Y6s were challenged with the task to earn 10 or more achievement points from staff during the 3 days - we were overwhelmed by the number of students who achieved this or even achieved more points! The Y8 Buddies also nominated 3 students from each form class to receive the Buddy Award for being a transition star. We ended the three days with a hugely successful awards ceremony - our new Y7s really impressed us!

Our Y8 Buddy Team were amazing at helping the Y6s and enjoyed getting to know them. Well done everyone for a fantastic experience and thank you for your support during this big event. The Transition Buddies will be running our Y7 Newbees Club every week where students can choose what they want to play together from a range of board games, crafts, chat and friendship bracelet making for the Christmas market. We hope to see many of you there! The Buddies will also be on the Y7 yard during break times in September.

Uniform:



- Please see [Transition Newsletter 2](#) for the full guide on uniform and where to buy it.
- During the Transition Days, students were given a red ribbon (every year group has a colour)
- The red ribbon is to be sewn on the blazer pocket above the badge
- The House badge (given to students on their Induction Day in September) is to be sewn on the blazer lapel on the same side as the badge.
- If you do not have these or they have been misplaced, you can come to the school's reception and get them.

Equipment:



- Pencil case (any colour)
- Black/ blue / green pens, ruler, rubber, pencils, pencil sharpener.
- Black/ navy plain school bag
- Notebook - optional - you may want to write down the names/ contact information of any students you meet (you won't be able to use your phone for this, so a notebook is recommended!)
- Morning snack is optional (no nuts) - food is available from the canteen at break time.
- Packed lunch (no nuts) - optional
- Water bottle is recommended (water fountains throughout school)
- Mobile phone (if very necessary for collection after school, otherwise we recommend leaving it at home - more information below)
- Planner and timetable - you will be given these on your Induction Day on Tuesday 2nd September

Wednesday 2nd September - Y7 Induction Day

- Mrs McGann and the Pastoral Team will be on Thornhill Terrace to welcome you and guide students into school.
- We will spend the day in our form classes with our form tutor to get ourselves settled and organised for the term ahead.

Students will receive:

- School planner

- Individual timetable
- For anyone who needs their fingerprint sorting out to access the Library and canteen - we will arrange this in the morning.
- Exercise books/folder will be given by their subject teachers in lessons throughout the first weeks once the timetable starts.

Travelling to school using public transport

Nexus have shared their 'School [Travel](#) Fact File' with detailed information on travelling to school - explaining how timetables work and the travel passes available.

Nexus have also shared the following links with us to share with you:

[Plan Your Journey](#)

[Under 16 All day Ticket](#)

[School bus Service](#)

[Child Season Ticket](#)

[Young People and Public Transport](#)

During the summer holidays, Nexus offer up to three children aged 11 and under can travel on Metro or the Shields ferry for free with a paying accompanying adult.

For more information on great days out see [North East Days Out](#)

ParentPay App and Arbor App

There 2 apps that will make parents lives easier whilst your child(ren) are studying with us! We recommend you download these and use the information provided by our Admin team to get logged in.

- **The Arbor Parent App** – timetable, communications, attendance and in app messaging. You have received an e mail about this app.
- **ParentPay** – Y6s have received an activation letter during the transition days and by following the instructions on the letter you can create a parent ParentPay account and be able to attach a child to that account for making payments for anything. If

your child was absent during the transition days, the brown envelope will be at our Reception desk.

Please contact enquiries@staga.co.uk if you need any help with this or do not have an admissions letter for ParentPay.



Key Dates for 1st Half Term:

- **Wednesday 2nd September** - Y7 Induction Day (usual 8.30am -3pm day from now on)
- **Thursday 3rd September** - first day of lessons
- **Weeks 1 and 2 in September** - students will be supported in travelling to different lessons and getting used to their timetable. Teachers will be collecting them from y7 yard and escorting them to every lesson.
- **Week 2** - Y7 Reading Tests (nothing to prepare for!) / ICT Induction / extra-curricular clubs begin
- **Week 3** - Y7 MIDYIS Tests (nothing to prepare for!)
- **Week 4** - Youth Ministry Team workshop with Y7 - Tuesday 22nd September
- **Week 4** - Y7 Welcome Mass - Thursday 24th September + Meet the Form Tutor Thursday 24th September 2.30pm (more information to follow in September)

- **Week 5** - SEND Parent/ Carer Information Evening - Thursday 1st October 2026
- **Week 6** - 'Good Cup of Tea' Week (in remembrance of Catherine McAuley who founded St Anthony's)
- **Week 7** - Faith and Culture Week
- **Week 8** - Y7 Parent/Carer Evening - Wednesday 21st October 2.30-6pm (online video calls)

Here is the [link](#) to our webpage for more information on the School Day and Dates for 2026-27.

Transition Support/Information

Please visit our Transition webpage by following this link [here](#) for resources to support students and families in the transition into secondary school (in general) and for specific information on St Anthony's transition.

Have a fantastic summer and we look forward to starting your St Anthony's journey in September!

'We should be shining lamps, giving light to all around us' Catherine McAuley

