

Frequently Asked Questions

New Year 7 Students

September 2024

1. How can I prepare my child for secondary school?

Moving to secondary school can be a daunting time for both children and their parents. One of the key ways to prepare your child for transition is to develop their independence skills. This includes encouraging them to gather and pack their own equipment ready for school and other activities, managing time and money, looking after their belongings and developing strategies to use if something goes wrong.

2. What equipment will my child need to bring to school?

The basic items of equipment that your child will need are: pencil case, pen, pencil, ruler and rubber. Many learners also choose to bring coloured pens and pencils along with other items of stationery which they feel they may need.

3. Will they need PE kit on the first day of high school?

No, the first PE lesson will not involve changing into kit. It's a great idea to have the PE kit ready going forward from that day as your child will receive their timetable on their first day.

4. What time does my child need to arrive at school?

All students need to be on the school site for 8.35am each day. Lessons begin at 8.45am so students need to be in the school building after the warning bell sounds at 8.40am each morning.

5. How will my child find their way around school?

All students will be provided with a map of the school building. Staff will be available throughout the day to ensure that students know where to go. We also have brilliant older students who will be on hand to ensure that Year 7 know where they are going and when.

6. Where does my child need to go on the first day of school?

Rhosnesni High School staff will be on hand to meet your child at the front gate and direct them to the appropriate place. Peer Mentors will also be there to escort students. The students will then meet the rest of their form class, and their form tutor.

7. Will my child be in a form with other children who they know?

Wherever possible, and appropriate, your child will be placed with at least one other student from their primary school. We have conversations with the primary schools before your child starts at Rhosnesni and ask them to give us friendship groups to consider when building the form classes.

8. What happens if my child is unwell when they are at school?

If your child is ill they will be sent to the Medical Room where trained first aiders will assess how your child is. If required, a member of staff will call home to discuss with you how your child is feeling.

9. What do I do if my child is ill and going to be absent from school?

Please contact school as early as you can to leave a message on our designated absence line.

Phone number: 01978 340947.

10. How do we pay for school dinners?

All students will have an account set up to use the school's cashless system, Parent Pay. You will be notified of the account number. Please see the leaflet on the transition page of the school website for full information. Students who receive Free School Meals will have an account set up and this will be pre-loaded daily with the allocated amount.

11. Where do I purchase school uniform?

The school has entered into partnership with RAM Leisure, Whitegates Industrial Complex, Wrexham, LL13 8UG (01978) 360360, www.ramleisure.com. They are the only supplier of our school uniform logo items. The company is uniquely placed to be able to offer the purchase of good value, quality uniform and other essentials. Please ensure that you have read the school uniform guidance and policy before purchasing uniform items. The School Uniform Grant, came into effect from September 2018. For further details please click onto the Uniform Grant section in the Transition Pack or visit WCBC website.

12. What if my child forgets something?

Teachers will be understanding in the early weeks of the term. If they need something important, the Office staff can contact home for it to be brought in.

13. What should I do if my child loses something?

Losing things at school is unfortunately, part of school life. The chances of reuniting students with their belongings increase dramatically if they are clearly labelled. In such a large school it can be hard to differentiate an individual's property; a clear name tag makes returning items much easier. If

your child has lost something they should check to see if it has been handed in to lost property in resources. They should also retrace their steps and return to the classrooms/changing rooms they have been to that day to see if they have left it there. They should do this on the day that they discover the loss. If this proves unsuccessful, it is sometimes worth checking with lost property again, after a few days have elapsed.

14. What happens if my child loses their tie?

Your child can purchase a tie direct from our main office for £3.00, or from our suppliers RAM Leisure.

15. How much homework will my child get?

It may vary a little, but a few of pieces of homework a night on average.

16. What are the rules on mobile phones?

The use of mobile phones is not permitted at Rhosnesni High school. If a phone is seen or heard by a member of staff, the phone will be confiscated and students can collect their phone from the main reception at the end of the day. If your child chooses to bring a phone to school with them to use on their way to or from school, it should be switched off and placed away safely in their bag before entering school.

17. Who do I contact if I have any questions or if there are any problems?

You should contact your child's Form Tutor in the first instance. The most effective ways of doing this are either by putting a note in your child's planner or contacting the school to speak to the relevant teacher who will then respond as soon as they can. For more significant questions or concerns please contact:

Mr T Clarke, Head of Year 7, Mr M Platt, Transition Co-ordinator or Mrs Dokk-Olsen, ALNCO.

18. What if my child is unhappy?

If for any reason your child is unhappy please encourage them to talk to their Form Tutor in the first instance, or their Head of Year. The staff at Rhosnesni are extremely welcoming and would be happy to discuss and support you as much possible with any issues or concerns.

22. Where can my child find out about extra-curricular clubs?

There will be information available in tutor rooms, shared in assemblies, on the school website, via Twitter and our Parent App.

23. Where can I find the school's key dates and information?

The school website is regularly updated with key information. We have a school Parent App and a school Twitter account where information is also shared.