

Kirkcudbright Academy P7 Transition

Frequently Asked Questions



What are the arrangements for the school day?

The school day starts at 08.55. Pupils are registered in class and should sign in at the school office if they are late for any reason.

In the morning there are two 50 minute periods followed by one 30 minute period.

Break is then from 11.05-11.20.

This is followed by two 50 minute periods.

Lunch is then from 13.00-13.50.

There are then two further 50 minute periods in the afternoon.

Will my child get a chance to see the Academy before they start?

We are currently planning for two Transition Days to take place in May and an Induction Week in June. If we are unable to go ahead with these due to ongoing restrictions pupils will be offered tours of the school to allow them to familiarise themselves with the building.

What are the arrangements for school lunches?

S1 pupils are not allowed to leave the school grounds at lunchtime, unless they sign out at the school office as a 'home lunch'.

Pupils can bring a packed lunch, which they can eat in the canteen, or buy their lunch in school. Lunches can be pre-ordered at break for pick up at lunchtime. The canteen does accept cash, but most pupils pay using their Young Scot card, which you can add money to either online or in school. Pupils will receive a Young Scot card when they start with us in August.

Will my child be together with their friendship group?

The S1 classes are arranged based on a range of considerations, including information from P7 teachers. Although we do try to ensure that pupils are classed with others that they know and get along well with, it is not always possible for them to be classed in friendship groups. Pupils will have had the chance to meet those from other primary schools in the two Transition Days, and will be in their actual S1 classes for the Induction Week.

What should my child do if they get lost?

We will arrange for senior pupils to escort pupils on transition days to help them to get to know the layout of the school.

However, if any pupil gets lost they should either ask a nearby adult or senior pupil or go to the school office.

What is the school uniform?

School uniform is:

- A white shirt
- School tie (this can be bought from the office)
- Black trousers or skirt (no leggings)
- Plain black cardigan or jumper
- Plain black shoes – trainers are acceptable, but must be completely black

How will I know if my child has been given homework?

We use the online 'Show My Homework' system to set homework and to track homework completion. This allows both pupils and parents to see what homework has been issued and if it has been handed in. You will receive further information, including log-in details, in August.

What happens if my child is unwell?

If your child is unwell and unable to attend school, please contact the school office to let them know the reason for absence and expected length of absence.

If your child feels unwell when at school, they should go to the school office. Pupils should not contact parents directly to ask them to pick them up; if this is required the school office will contact you.

Who should I contact if I have any concerns I would like to discuss?

Your child's Pupil Support Teacher will be your first point of contact in school. Each pupil will be assigned a Pupil Support Teacher according to the House System:

- McLellan House – Mrs Dwojacka
- Selkirk House – Miss Wells or Miss McNaught
- Stewart House – Mrs Kirkland

If you wish to speak to your child's Pupil Support Teacher you should contact the school office by telephone or email.

What opportunities are there for extracurricular activities?

We encourage all pupils to become involved in the wider life of the school to develop their confidence, skills and broaden their experiences. The extra-curricular activities we offer can change from year to year but generally include:

- A range of musical opportunities, including choir, orchestra and ceilidh band
- A range of sports clubs, including athletics, basketball and hockey
- Experiment club
- Drama club
- Duke of Edinburgh

We also recognised the important role trips and excursions play in supporting and enhancing the curriculum. Subject areas often offer pupils the opportunity to travel to events or places of interest throughout the session.

The main S1 trip is the Langdale trip, which usually takes place in September. This focuses on teamwork and building resilience and is an excellent opportunity for S1s. We hope to be able to go ahead with this trip in the 2021-22 session.