



Frequently Asked Questions for P7 Pupils and Parents

The school day

Q – What are the school times?

A – The school day starts at **08.50** and finishes at **15.15**.

Each day pupils get 7 periods. You will register with your house group each morning. There are two periods before break. Three periods in between break and lunch. Then two periods in the afternoon. A period is 45 minutes long.

Registration – 08.50 – 09.00

Period 1 – 09.00 – 09.45

Period 2 – 09.45 – 10.30

Break – 10.30 – 10.50

Period 3 – 10.50 – 11.35

Period 4 – 11.35 – 12.20

Period 5 – 12.20 – 13.05

Lunch – 13.05 – 13.45

Period 6 – 13.45 – 14.30

Period 7 -14.30 – 15.15

Q – What lunches are available for S1 pupils?

A – The school canteen freshly prepares meals in the kitchen every day with a wide variety of options available at break and lunch time. A meal deal costs £2 with a main, drink and snack for that price. 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. All pupils who receive Free School Meals will receive this money on their Young Scot Card. Pupils can also bring a packed lunch, which they can eat in the canteen.

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

Q – What is the school uniform policy?

A – For secondary learners, the school uniform is:

- *Black trousers, shorts, skirt or pinafore dress*
- *White shirt or polo shirt*
- *School tie*
- *Black sweatshirt, jumper or cardigan*
- *Black footwear*
- *For PE pupils are asked to wear black and white kit.*

Q – What extra-curricular opportunities are there?

A – In S1 we try to encourage pupils to take part in the wide range of clubs and groups that are run by a variety of staff and senior pupils. These include many sporting and non - sporting opportunities.

Clubs currently running for S1s

Bee Club Chess Club Debating Society Football Lego Club Lego Robotics LGBT @ NWCC Netball Reading Scrabble Sign Language

Classes

Q - What House/Class will I be in?

A – Each pupil will be allocated to one of the three houses – *Eagle, Lynx or Stag*. These are predominately based on surnames with A-G in Eagle, H-Mc in Lynx, Me-Z in Stag (*although if you*

have an elder sibling you will likely be in the same house as them). Pupils will remain in these house groups for registration and all non-practical classes such as English, Maths, Social Subjects and Languages. They will also be in a practical class which is smaller and has a range of pupils from across the houses, these subjects include Science, Expressive Arts and Technologies.

Q - What subjects will be on my timetable?

A – Each week pupils will get a range of different subjects and teachers. This includes Maths, English, Science, Social Subjects, ICT, Home Economics, Craft, Art, Drama, Music, PE, RME and Electives.

Electives give pupils a chance to take part in something a bit different and learn a new skill. These include *School of Rugby, Intro to Creative Industries, Sign Language, Arts & Crafts, Dynamic Youth Award and Big Burns Supper*.

Support

Q – What should I do if I have a problem or something is wrong?

A – Every pupil has a PT Pupil Support. These are Mr Torbett (Eagle), Ms McQuade (Lynx), Mrs Reynolds (Stag) & Mrs Laverty. It is their job to support and help you with any concerns you have. They will come round you register class most mornings to check in how things are and will be available to speak to anytime you need. They are also the first point of contact if home needs to get in contact about anything school related.

Q – How will teachers help me?

A – AT NWCC we believe relationships are the most important thing for learning and we follow a Positive Relationship Framework which is based around promoting and nurturing positive relationships between staff, pupils and the wider school community. All teachers will have discussions and listen about what works well for you in the classroom and around the school.

Q - Will there be support in class for all pupils?

A - Yes, we have an excellent team of Learning Assistants who will be in classes. They are there to support all pupils in the class, not just those with Additional Support Needs.

Q – What happens if I get lost?

A – During your first few days there will be ‘buddies’ that will help show you around. Because we are a small school it is actually really easy to find your way around with most of the classes in the main teaching corridor. If you do get lost all teachers and adults in the school will be happy to help you and senior pupils will be around to help you find the right classes.

Q – What additional support is available if I am struggling?

A – Your Pupil Support Teacher, all teachers and senior pupils will be there to discuss any problems you have no matter how big or small. We also work very closely with a large number of partner agencies who provide additional support. The school has nurture groups for S1 pupils and Jenny our Youth Worker leads sessions to develop self-esteem and resilience amongst other things. We have close links with the School Nursing Team, Young Carers, CAMHS, Barnados, Youth Enquiry Service and Speech and Language Therapy who all who provide 1:1 support for pupils at NWCC.

School Facilities

Q – What are the facilities at the school like?

A – NWCC is a state of the art 2-18 school with the secondary fully equipped with modern classrooms and resources. The PE department has full use of all weather and grass pitches, games halls and a fitness suite. We have two fully equipped HE classrooms, a craft workshop, computer suites, a drama studio, fantastic music department and flexible learning spaces which allow for creativity and independence for pupils to work in.

Contacting the School

Q – How do my parents get in touch with the school?

A – The school can be contacted any time via email to the school office - gw18officenorthwest@ea.dumgal.sch.uk or by calling 01387 245100. If it is a specific question to do with your child/learning this would normally be directed to their PT Pupil Support. You can also keep up to date with news and events via Social Media including the Parent Councils Facebook Page 'North West Community Campus Celebrating Success' and Twitter '@NWCCDumfries'.