



Moving from Primary school to Secondary school

Starting at Farmor's School will feel like a big change. It can be a really exciting time, but you may also have some worries and concerns.

This leaflet is for Year 6 students and gives useful information about what to expect when going to secondary school.

Starting Secondary School



Head of Year - Mr Hockey
Transition manager - Mrs Brathwaite
Head teacher - Mr Evans
Assistant Head (Pastoral) - Mr Eckersley
Assistant Head (Inclusion) - Mrs Sturla

General information

- Tutor groups - you will be put into one of 6 tutor groups with between 28 - 30 students in each. You stay in the same tutor group right up to Year 11.
- There are four Houses across the year group. If you have a brother/sister at the school already you will be put into the same house as them. If not, then you will be randomly allocated to one unless your parents email to say they would like you to be put into a specific house.
- Houses - **Barker**, **Farmor**, **Keble** & **Tame**

What to expect when school returns to normal

Typical school day (we will try and send a video about this next week)

- The school day starts at 8.45am for registration. You will need to be in school by 8.40am and Registration usually ends at 9:00am
- Monday there is PSE until 9:15am and only 4 lessons (Monday is a shorter day because the staff have meetings on a Monday after school)
- On one day (probably Tuesdays) we will have Assembly in place of Registration
- Lessons are 60mins long.
- Break is at 11.50am on a Monday and at 11.10am Tuesday to Friday
- Lunch time is at 12.50pm on a Monday and at 1.40pm on a Tuesday to Friday.
- At breaktime and lunch time you will be able to:
 - Buy food from the canteen/snack shack
 - Attend a club - information on this will be issued in September.
 - Meet up with your friends from other tutor groups
 - Speak to teachers or other member of staff
- We have a two-week timetable so that we can fit in all the different subjects and Week A is different to Week B - you will get used to it!
- An example of a timetable is on the next page

	AMon	ATue	AWed	AThu	AFri	BMon	BTue	BWed	BThu	BFri
Tutor	PHSCE 8.45 - 9.15	8.45 - 9.00	8.45 - 9.00	8.45 - 9.00	8.45 - 9.00	PHSCE 8.45 - 9.15	8.45 - 9.00	8.45 - 9.00	8.45 - 9.00	8.45 - 9.00
1	9.20 - 10.20	9.05 - 10.05	9.05 - 10.05	9.05 - 10.05	9.05 - 10.05	9.20 - 10.20	9.05 - 10.05	9.05 - 10.05	9.05 - 10.05	9.05 - 10.05
2	10.25 - 11.25	10.10 - 11.10	10.10 - 11.10	10.10 - 11.10	10.10 - 11.10	10.25 - 11.25	10.10 - 11.10	10.10 - 11.10	10.10 - 11.10	10.10 - 11.10
Break	11.25 - 11.50	11.10 - 11.35	11.10 - 11.35	11.10 - 11.35	11.10 - 11.35	11.25 - 11.50	11.10 - 11.35	11.10 - 11.35	11.10 - 11.35	11.10 - 11.35
3	11.50 - 12.50	11.35 - 12.35	11.35 - 12.35	11.35 - 12.35	11.35 - 12.35	11.50 - 12.50	11.35 - 12.35	11.35 - 12.35	11.35 - 12.35	11.35 - 12.35
4ML	12.50 - 13.20	12.40 - 13.40	12.40 - 13.40	12.40 - 13.40	12.40 - 13.40	12.50 - 13.20	12.40 - 13.40	12.40 - 13.40	12.40 - 13.40	12.40 - 13.40
ML5	13.20 - 14.20	13.40 - 14.25	13.40 - 14.25	13.40 - 14.25	13.40 - 14.25	13.20 - 14.20	13.40 - 14.25	13.40 - 14.25	13.40 - 14.25	13.40 - 14.25
5	N/A	14.25 - 15.25	14.25 - 15.25	14.25 - 15.25	14.25 - 15.25	N/A	14.25 - 15.25	14.25 - 15.25	14.25 - 15.25	14.25 - 15.25

Monday - Break 11.25 - 11.50 / Lunch 12.50 - 13.20 / School finishes 14.20
 Tuesday - Friday - Break 11.10 - 11.35 / Lunch 13.40 - 14.25 / School Finishes 15.25

The shaded areas are breaks and lunchtimes and all the unshaded boxes are lessons. You may get your timetable before the summer holidays which will give you information on what subjects you have on each day, the teacher and the classroom. You may have more than one teacher per subject and different rooms which can make it confusing but again, after a while you will get used to the routine and there is always help at hand if you get stuck.

Subjects

- In Year 7, there are 14 different subjects and as stated above, you will have a different classroom and different teacher for each one.
- The different subjects are Maths, English, Computing and Information Technology, Geography, History, Science, Art, Design & Technology, Modern Foreign Language, Religious Studies, Drama, Music, Physical Education, PSHCE
- Most subjects are taught in tutor groups. Maths is set later in the year and you will be mixed up for PE and D&T mostly for Health & Safety reasons.
- The 5 minute gap between some lesson times is what we call 'Movement Time' to allow you to get to your next lesson on time.

Homework

- When you start you will be given a username for our computer network and also an office 365email address - we will show you how to use this in your early ICT lessons.
- Homework is set each week by individual subject teachers. All homework is put onto **Show My Homework** which is an internet based system and you can view it at home - you can use your email address to set up your own account - more information to follow about logins and how to use it. There is an app you can get on your Smart Phones and your parents can also get a log in as well.
- There is no specific timetable for setting homework but you will probably get 2 pieces a day on average
- There is a homework club at lunch times where you will access to a PC and printer.
- If you need help with homework speak to your subject teacher.

Merits

- Merits are awarded for positive behaviour and effort.
- Praise cards, certificate, prizes and reward trips are awarded for high number of merits or exceptional contributions.
- Merits also count towards the House Cup as well as many other House Competitions like Sports/House Factor/Bake Off

Sanctions

It is very unusual for detentions to be given in the first term because we understand that it will take a while to get used to the new school and systems. However, if you persistently fall short of our expectations you can expect a sanction. These could be short detentions at break or lunch right up to after school detentions, a day in isolation or even exclusion in the worst cases - of course, you will all be wonderfully well behaved so you need not worry.

Expectations

Those of you who have managed to watch the Introductory Screencast / Video from last week will know that I mentioned our 3 Core Values - Integrity; Fellowship and Endeavour. I suggested that we expect students to be respectful of one another, be the best they can be and to take on challenges with determination and resilience.

We want you to be happy and secure in school and to learn new knowledge, skills and values that will prepare you for the adult world. In order to do so we have high expectations for all of you in terms of your attitude, behaviour and conduct - which I call my 'A'B'C'

Attitude - We expect students to have a positive attitude towards learning and school in general. You should arrive at each lesson ready to learn with the correct equipment and attitude. A positive and respectful attitude towards others is essential. We would encourage you to get involved in lessons and extra-curricular opportunities to make the most of what is available and make new friends.

Behaviour - We are a large school with lots going on. Despite this, I expect much of what your Primary Schools expect from you in terms of behaviour is similar to us. . Listen carefully when others are talking, do not distract yourself and others from learning and always try to work to the best of your ability. A big change is walking around the school between lessons - you need to remember to walk on the left, observe the one-way system in the Maths/English Block and not push and shove on the walkways/corridors

Conduct - Whenever you are wearing Farmor's uniform/school badge you are representing our school. We want you to wear it with pride and to be a great ambassador for our school both when you are in school and when you are out on trips/fixtures. My top tip is to always conduct yourself in a way that would make your parents proud if they could see what you are doing.

If you remember your 'ABC' you will go a long way to being successful at Farmor's and enjoying your time with us. It may seem like a long way off but my last year group will tell you that five years passes very quickly and we want you to have fond memories of your time at Secondary School.

What to do if I need help?

To make sure that you do enjoy your time at school, there are lots of people around to help you at Farmor's. Here are a number of people you can speak to about any issues you may have:

- **Tutor** - we will let you know who this will be on 26th June. You see them every morning and will build up a good relationship over time. Wherever possible, you will keep the same tutor and Head of Year for all 5 years up to the end of Year 11
- **Head of Year** - Mr Hockey. Like your tutor you will see me regularly.
- **Subject teachers** - you will find this out when you get your timetable in September (possibly before)
- **Learning Support and Teaching Assistants** - You may have TA's in some of your classes and can always get help from Learning Support as well as IT3 for homework club and the Librarian is often able to help at break and lunchtimes.
- **Prefects** - These are Y11 students who wear a different tie so you can tell which ones are prefects. You will have two assigned to your tutor group but you can talk to any of them at any time and they will try to help you.
- **Student Services** - Mrs Hartshorn and Mrs Whiteman manage Student Services. We will show you where to find this when you come up to school. They are at hand to help with any problems you may have during the school day such as not knowing which lesson you have; if you have lost something; if you feel unwell; you need to report an incident; you need to sign in or out from an appointment

MR HOCKEY'S TEN TOP TIPS FOR STARTING SECONDARY SCHOOL

1. Treat others as you would like to be treated - A lot of you are both nervous and excited about joining so help others to make friends, feel included and support one another - you are all in the same position
2. Make a good first impression with your new teachers - you can do this by following the ABC I mentioned earlier. Be polite and work hard.
3. Take advantage of the extra-curricular opportunities. Try to find at least one club that interests you as that will help you feel part of the school and make new friends outside of your tutor group
4. Do homework the night you get it or agree a good routine that works for you.
5. Pack your bag the night before to help with your organisation - particularly PE kits. Set reminders on your phones if you need to
6. Take a photo of your timetable on your phone and put a copy up at home
7. Don't bring valuables to school or if you do, please look after them. Label all of your items, particularly uniform, PE Kit, water bottles and pencil cases - these are often left lying around and we can only get them back to you if we know who owns them!
8. Ask if you ever need help - support is available for you. We do want you to become independent and develop resilience but we know you will need help with this, particularly when you first join.
9. Don't annoy the older kids! Many of our older students are very friendly and know what it is like to be in Year 7, I am sure they will be nice to you if you respect them. If they are not let me know!
10. Finally, go easy on me if England beat Wales at Rugby - fortunately that has not happened too often in recent years but just in case!

MEET SOME STAFF YOU MAY NEED TO KNOW

This is Mr Evans the Headteacher - he runs the school with help from his Senior Leadership Team and you will see him in assemblies and around school.



Mr Hockey is your Head of Year (picture taken on a Farmor's Cricket and Netball Tour from 2019 - see if you can work out where it is from the iconic mountain in the background?) I am a PE teacher and yes it is my real name and no I don't play hockey! (I do play Football, Cricket and Golf)



Mrs Whiteman



Mrs Hartshorn



Mrs Whiteman and Mrs Hartshorn look after Student Services

WHAT NEXT....?

So far, we have sent newsletters, a screencast and now a Welcome Pack so we hope you feel that you have had a lot of information about joining us.

Next week we will send you a Student Perspective of a Day In The Life of a Y7 student as best we can given the current restrictions in place.

On 26th June we will let you know what Tutor Group you are in and send you a short welcome video from your new tutor

On 10th July I am going to set you a research task to complete over the summer holidays that will help you find out more about Farmors for yourselves

Don't forget to check out our school website if you want to find out more

WWW.FARMORS.GLOUCS.SCH.UK