

2021
2022

HS
Hungerhill
School

Getting started information guide





Welcome to...



Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome to Hungerhill School and our 2021/2022 Getting Started at Hungerhill Information Guide.

We know that starting a new school is an exciting but nervous time. We believe the more familiar a child and parent/carers is with the school the easier the transition. This handbook has been written to provide you with useful information about our policies and systems and to give important information that we hope will make it easier for you to understand the way the School operates and allow you to easily contact key staff should the need arise.

We all know that an excellent partnership between school, parents/carers and students is the recipe for student success and we hope that the information within this handbook will be of use to you throughout the whole academic year in supporting your child to achieve their potential.

Yours faithfully

Lucie Pond
Headteacher



• Excellence • Respect • Resilience • Care • Honesty •

Contents



• Vision Statement & our Core Values	4-5
• Key Contact Information	6
• School Uniform	7-8
• Clothing Requirements for Physical Education	9-11
• Equipment List	12
• Attendance	13-14
• Introduction to Life at Hungerhill	15
• How Hungerhill is Organised	16-17
• The Key Stage 3 Team	18
• The SEND Department	19
• Lunchtimes	20
• Extra-Curricular Activities	21
• Home Learning	22
• Positive Experiences Outside the Classroom	23
• Important Rules about Mobile Phones and Electronic Devices	24
• Period 7 / Whole School Detention	25
• Parent/Carer's Guide to Parents' Evenings	26
• Problems you may experience and what to do about them - A Guide for Parents/Carers	27-28
• Frequently Asked Questions	29-38

• Excellence • Respect • Resilience • Care • Honesty •

Vision Statement

Our core values

• Excellence • Respect • Resilience • Care • Honesty •

We believe that all students are unique individuals and are of equal worth; everyone can achieve and has a contribution to make; and education works best when it is a close partnership between the school, the students, and the home. From this premise, we set out to develop independent, caring, enquiring, morally responsible, adaptable, and well-qualified young people prepared for life and work beyond school. We seek to ensure that every young person leaves the school with an enjoyment of learning, and an understanding of the importance of learning in their future lives.



• Excellence • Respect • Resilience • Care • Honesty •

The school's aims are:

- to develop the potential of all students – their knowledge, skills and understanding – through an ambitious and challenging curriculum
- to use methods of learning and teaching which meet individual needs, develop feelings of confidence, bring success, and maximise students' standards of achievement
- to foster a caring, well behaved community where students:
 - are well behaved and self-disciplined
 - feel they belong and are valued, are happy, and emotionally secure so that they are able to explore their feelings within a positive environment
 - value their own health and wellbeing
 - learn co-operation, tolerance and mutual respect, and involve themselves fully in the life of the community
 - strive for quality and excellence in all aspects of school life
 - to provide clean, stimulating, and safe surroundings which enhance learning and foster respect of the environment
 - to encourage a positive and active partnership with parents and the wider community



• Excellence • Respect • Resilience • Care • Honesty •

Key Contact Information

Email: admin@hungerhillschool.com Telephone: 01302 885 811

Key staff members for Year 7	
Headteacher	Mrs L Pond
Deputy Headteacher/ Achievement & Inclusion	Mrs S Parker-Browne
Associate Assistant Headteacher for Behaviour, Attendance & Achievement for Key Stage 3	Mr M Hickin
Achievement Leader for Key Stage 3	Mrs J Marriott
Head of Year 7	Mr C Tomlinson
Special Educational Needs & Disabilities Co-ordinator (SENCO) & Designated Safeguarding Lead	Mrs J Laidlaw
Special Educational Needs & Disabilities Co-ordinator (SENCO)	Mrs C Tomlinson
Special Educational Needs & Disabilities Support Officer (SENSO)	Mrs A Clark
Senior Lunchtime Supervisor	Mrs S Oxley
Deputy Safeguarding Officer	Mrs S Bagshaw

School Uniform

The school attaches great importance to appropriate dress. It helps to establish a feeling of community and to develop the personal presentation skills of students. Uniform is therefore not an option, it is a necessity. We expect all students to wear the uniform with pride when in school or when attending school functions. Parents are asked to ensure that clothing is clearly labelled. Our main supplier is Cliffs, please see our website for details on how to order and purchase the uniform.

School blazer	The school blazer is compulsory for all students. Purchased from our nominated supplier, Cliffs
Trousers/skirt	Plain black, trousers/knee length skirt of a classical style, straight cut, purchased from our nominated supplier, Cliffs. Trousers/skirts purchased from other retailers are NOT permitted
Shirt	Plain white shirt with traditional collar, buttoned to the top (no sports shirts)
School jumper	May be worn under the blazer. It may not be worn in place of the blazer
School coat	A sensible raincoat is required. No hoodies, tracksuit tops, jersey tops, e.g. sweatshirts, denim jackets, leather jackets, fur coats, cardigan style jackets are permitted. Ideally, any coat your child wears to school should be waterproof
School bag	Students will have the choice of either a black holdall, black rucksack, or a black Tote bag. These bags should not display large logos. These can be purchased from our nominated supplier, Cliffs. Bags must be zipped to prevent rain damaging books and equipment; bags must be capable of fitting all necessary school equipment and books (including two A4 folders); Handbag style bags are not permitted
Tie	A clip-on school tie must be worn. These are available for £5.00 from our nominated supplier. The school Admin Office also holds a small supply of these and are available to students to purchase should they misplace their tie in order that they can access a replacement quickly
Socks/tights	Girls wearing skirts must wear plain, white/black socks, or plain black tights

School Uniform continued

Footware	All students are expected to wear sensible, black shoes with safe heels for movement around school. Trainer style shoes, boots, canvas shoes, sandals, pumps, or ‘ballet’ style shoes are not allowed. Shoes should have a low heel
Earrings	Students may wear one small, plain stud (not a ring) in each ear lobe. Ear ‘stretchers’ are not permitted and jewellery in any other part of the ear is also not permitted. No other piercings are allowed
Jewellery	Jewellery should only be worn in the form of a single, plain stud in the bottom of the ear lobe and not in other parts of the ear. All other forms of jewellery, including tongue piercings, rings, necklaces, and bracelets are not allowed. Smart watches are not allowed. Standard watches are permissible
Hair styles	These should be appropriate for school. Heads should not be shaved. Excessive hairstyles, such as line designs, extreme shaping, styling, unnatural colouring, or combination of colours are not allowed. We do not expect hair to be shaved to less than a grade 2. Long hair will need to be tied back for some lessons. Hair accessories, such as, bobbles, hair slides and hair bands should be discrete and plain in both colour and style
Make-up	Make-up is not allowed in Years 7, 8 and 9. It should only be worn discretely in Years 10 & 11 and is seen as a privilege for the older students. False nails and nail polish must not be worn
Denim	Denim and ‘jeans-type’ clothing should not be worn. Denim jackets or coats are not allowed



Clothing Requirements for Physical Education - Boys

Indoor Kit

- White polo shirt/t-shirt
(no team shirts permitted)
- Black sports shorts
- White sports socks
- Trainers



Outdoor Kit

- Red or black rugby shirt or sweatshirt
- Black sports shorts
- Black football socks
- Trainers
- Football boots
- Shin pads
- Base layer
(optional)



Clothing Requirements for Physical Education - Girls

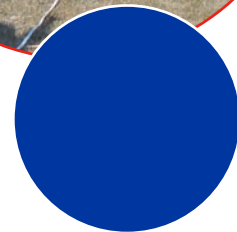
Indoor Kit

- White polo shirt/t-shirt
(no team shirts permitted)
- Black sports shorts or sports leggings
- White sports socks
- Trainers



Outdoor Kit

- Black half-zip training top or sweatshirt
- Black sports shorts or sports leggings
- Black football socks
- Trainers
- Football boots
- Shin pads
- Base layer
(optional)



Physical Education Kit

Your child will require an indoor and outdoor PE kit throughout the Autumn and Spring terms but will usually just require their indoor kit for the Summer term as the weather is usually warm enough not to require the outdoor kit. Trainers will be required for every PE lesson and football boots will be required at certain times when they are doing football and rugby in the curriculum. Your child's PE teacher will inform them of when boots are required.

*The optional school logo PE kit can be purchased from our nominated supplier Schoolwear Solutions (Cliffs) www.schoolwearsolutions.com

As you can imagine, the PE changing rooms can be a place where uniform and PE kit can get muddled up between students. For this reason, please could we ask that all PE kit and uniform items are individually labelled with your child's name.

For further information about PE kit, PE lessons and the PE department, please visit the 'PE Kit' section on our website within the 'Parents' section.



Equipment List

Pencil case	Single sharpener
Black pen x2	Eraser
Purple pen	High lighter pen
HB pencil x2	Glue stick (Pritt stick or similar)
Colouring pencils	Black fineliner
Casio scientific calculator	Art pencils - 2b, 4b and 6b
Compass	Small headphones (iPhone earpiece style)
108° protractor	Book covering for exercise books including A4
30cm ruler	Eraser
White board black marker pen	

The items below are more specialised items that can be optionally

A4 Display Book x 2

Art Book A4

Collins French/Spanish Dictionary
(will depend on form group as to which language you study)



• Excellence • Respect • Resilience • Care • Honesty •

Attendance

We place great importance on attendance at Hungerhill School. We do so because we know that there is a direct link between a student's attendance and their attainment. The school's minimum target for attendance is 97%.

What do you do if your child is too ill to attend school?

As much as we encourage all of our students to attend school every day, even if they're feeling a little under the weather which will inevitably happen at some point in the year, we do understand that there may be a time when your child is too ill to attend. If this is the case, we ask that you report this absence before the start of the school day by calling the main reception on 01302 885811. If the phone lines are busy, please leave a message stating your child's name, your relationship to the child and a brief reason for their absence. If your child requires more than one day off, please ensure that you call in on each day of absence.

We ask that, where possible, all appointments (e.g. doctors and dentists) are made outside of school hours. If this is impossible, we will require a copy of the appointment card/letter accompanied by a note in your child's planner to authorise the absence. The note will need to be signed by their Head of Year and shown at reception on departure from school. Your child will need to sign out and back in again at reception on their return.

If your child requires time off for a reason other than illness or a medical appointment, please contact the Attendance Officer to discuss the situation.

Why is attendance so important? Research has shown that a student who misses 17 school days (which equates to 92.5% attendance) over each of their 5 years at secondary school will drop one whole GCSE grade in each subject. We often consider "90%" to be very good, for example this would sound like a great score in a test or a survey. As a result, there is sometimes the misconception that 90% attendance is good when, in reality, this would be a major concern.

• Excellence • Respect • Resilience • Care • Honesty •

Did you know that... over one school year:

- 90% attendance = half a day off every week
- 90% attendance = one full day of school missed every fortnight
- 90% attendance = 20 days off school in the year, that is 4 whole weeks missed
- 90% attendance = 100 hours of lesson time missed in the year

Over the five years of secondary school:

- 90% attendance = 100 full school days missed
- 90% attendance = 500 hours of lessons missed
- 90% attendance = 20 school weeks missed
- 90% attendance = half a school year missed throughout the five years

When broken down like this, it is easy to see why good attendance is so important. Poor attendance puts a child at a great disadvantage compared to their peers with good attendance, simply because they miss so much learning time.

Attendance matters!

- Excellence • Respect • Resilience • Care • Honesty •

Introduction to Life at Hungerhill

Your child’s first day at Hungerhill will be very exciting! They will have the opportunity to meet their classmates and spend a little time getting to know their Form Tutor. This teacher will be very important to them because he/she will be their first contact if they encounter any problems or have any worries. Your child will usually have the same Form Tutor throughout their time at Hungerhill so they will get to know each other very well.

The structure of the school day is as follows:

8.40am - 8.55am	Registration/ Assembly one day a week
8.50am - 9.55am	Period 1
9.55am - 10.55am	Period 2
10.55am - 11.10am	Break
11.10am - 12.10pm	Period 3
12.10pm - 1.10pm	Lunch
1.10pm - 2.10pm	Period 4 (Including afternoon registration)
2.10pm - 3.10pm	Period 5

Your child will receive a timetable which will outline what lessons they will have, where they are, and who will be teaching them.

- Excellence • Respect • Resilience • Care • Honesty •

How Hungerhill School is Organised

The structure of a secondary school is much larger than that of a primary school. At your child's primary school, there was probably one headteacher, and then several class teachers that taught specific year groups. At Hungerhill we have a Senior Leadership Team, Achievement Leaders, Heads of Year, Form Tutors, Curriculum Leaders and Department Teachers.

The Core Senior Leadership Team at Hungerhill



Deputy Headteacher
Mrs S Parker-Browne



Headteacher
Mrs L Pond



Deputy Headteacher
Mr P Storey



Assistant Headteacher
Mrs J Laidlaw



Assistant Headteacher
Miss H Tredgett



Assistant Headteacher
Trust Director of Mathematics
Mr O Davies



Associate Assistant Headteacher
Strategic Lead for Teaching
& Learning and Continual
Professional Development
Mrs R Ward



Associate Assistant Headteacher
Strategic Lead for Teaching
& Learning and Continual
Professional Development
Mr J Ryan



Associate Assistant Headteacher
for Behaviour, Attendance &
Achievement for Key Stage 3
Mr M Hickin

The Key Stage 3 Team



Achievement Leader
for Key Stage 3
Mrs J Marriott



Associate Assistant Headteacher
for Behaviour, Attendance &
Achievement for Key Stage 3
Mr M Hickin



Head of Year 7
Mr C Tomlinson

The Associate Assistant Headteacher has overall responsibility for Key Stage 3, and the Achievement Leader and Head of Year have responsibility for all of the form groups in Key Stage 3.

The student (pastoral) support received includes your child's Form Tutor and the Key Stage 3 Support Team. Your child's Form Tutor will have responsibility for their overall well being and they will generally get to know them the best. The Achievement Leader and Head of Year are there to help them with any health-related or emotional needs they may have during their time with us, as well as ensuring them to continue to progress academically.

The SEND Department

Hungerhill has a wonderful SEND department that is located in The Hub. This department is part of the main building near to the Modern Languages department. If your child has any additional needs you may need to make contact, with a member of the SEND team.

If you would like some more information about The Hub, please feel free to look on our website under the 'student' page. Here you will be able to read more about what The Hub is and what your child can do there. You can also read about the Teaching Assistants who work in The Hub.

The SEND team is made up of the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Co-ordinators (SENDCO's) and the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Support Officer (SENDSO's) they are as follows:



SENDCO
Mrs J Laidlaw



Assistant SENDCO
Mrs C Tomlinson



SENSO
Mrs A Clark

• Lunchtimes

Your child will get to enjoy a unique dining experience at Hungerhill. We have an hour lunch from 12.10pm – 1.10pm. We operate a ‘sittings’ system, the order of which changes every few weeks, to make it fair to all year groups.

Hungerhill operates a cashless system. This means that no money is accepted at the tills for payment of lunches. Please see information regarding this on the cashless catering section of the electronic student information form.

Money can be added to your child’s account by registering for an online payment account, this allows you to pre-pay for your child’s school lunches. Alternatively, your child can add money (coins or notes) using the payment machine located outside the dining hall. Each student will be given their own account using either biometrics (thumb print) or a 4-digit code.

Our school menus are displayed around the corridors of the school and are also on our website. They can be found via ‘Student’ page and ‘lunch’ link. As well as this canteen option we also offer a ‘grab and go’, a sandwich bar, a salad bar and a Pasta King options. Mrs Oxley is our Senior Lunchtime Supervisor who will be happy to address any issues you may have during the lunchtime period.



• Excellence • Respect • Resilience • Care • Honesty •

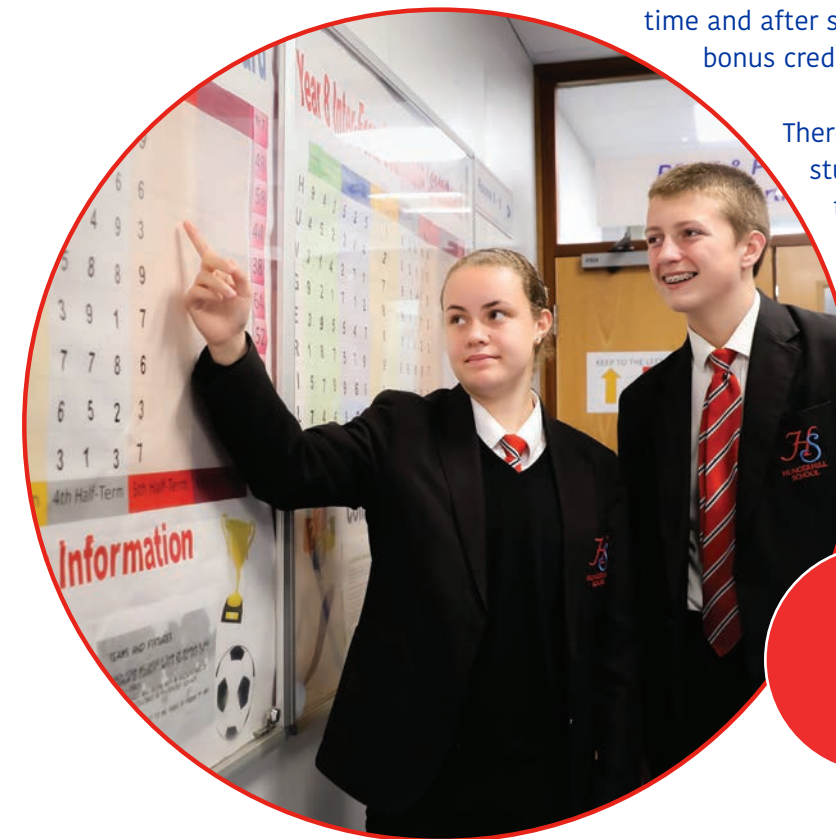
• Extra-Curricular Activities

Hungerhill offers a very diverse selection of extra-curricular activities. The activities offered vary across the years and are free to participate in. Students have the opportunity to attend a variety of lunch clubs each day. There are a wide range of clubs available from football, rugby and basketball for students wanting a practical environment to comic creation, horrible histories and art club for students who favour more creative activities. Years 7, 8 and 9 take part in a number of Interform competitions throughout the year. Form groups have the opportunity to compete against each other in events such as, rounder’s, snooker, general knowledge quiz’s, basketball, spelling bee, cross bar challenge, memory challenge and bake-off competitions. The competitions take place during form times, lunch time and after school. All students who participate are awarded a bonus credit.

There is at least one main competition each half-term for students to take part in. In addition to this form groups take part in a weekly quiz during form time. Points are awarded to form groups for every event and added to an overall leader board.

Each half-term a trophy is presented to the form group at the top of the leader board. We also offer a rich musical provision. If your child is interested in learning an instrument, or they have already been taking part in music lessons at their primary school, they will have the opportunity to further their experience with us at Hungerhill.

If your child is interested in music lessons, please speak to Miss Crowder, our Head of Performing Arts.



• Excellence • Respect • Resilience • Care • Honesty •

• Home Learning

One of the biggest differences between primary school and secondary school is home learning. Home learning is a very important companion to the work that your child does in school and it helps prepare them for further education, e.g sixth form or university.

Your child's teachers will set them regular home learning tasks which will be recorded on a home learning platform called Microsoft Teams. Teachers will list the instructions and deadlines for all tasks on Microsoft Teams and students will also have the opportunity to write this down at an appropriate time during lessons. If your child does not understand the home learning tasks, they are expected to see their teachers before the hand in date. You and your child will have a log in for Microsoft Teams so you can always keep up to date with what home learning has been set. It is also important that your child records all the home learning they are set in their planner, along with the hand in date.

Our school library runs regular home learning clubs at lunch and after school. These clubs are run by our librarian or our Teaching Assistants, and your child is welcome to use the library equipment to help them complete their home learning. Staff will also be available to help them if they have any questions.

If you find that your child's home learning tasks are always too difficult or always too easy then you can inform their subject teacher and they will be able to find something more appropriate.

It is also very important for your child to establish a good routine for doing their home learning early on. This will make their transition from primary to secondary school easier and will ensure that they get the most out of their studies at Hungerhill. We strongly recommend that your child gets into the habit of completing their home learning on the evening it has been set. This allows them to complete it whilst the work is fresh in their mind, it prevents home learning building up and it allows them to get help, if necessary BEFORE the deadline day.

• Excellence • Respect • Resilience • Care • Honesty •

• Positive Experiences Outside of the Classroom

We believe that education is about far more than what happens in the classroom. We offer lots of extra-curricular activities at Hungerhill from residential and day trips to after school and lunchtime clubs. There are numerous opportunities to get involved in sport and physical activity, the performing and creative arts as well as academic clubs. We are also proud of the number of opportunities our students have to take on leadership roles and participate in charity events. In addition to this we run regular interform competitions across a range of activities which can be great fun for everyone involved! Keep your eyes on the school newsletter for details about these activities. Your child will be updated on a regular basis through form time, assemblies and in lessons.



• Excellence • Respect • Resilience • Care • Honesty •

Important Rules on Mobile Phones and Electronic Devices

As a school, we do recognise that mobile phones are a key part of young people's lives and have considerable value, especially in relation to safety. Therefore, we do allow students to bring phones to school but we have certain rules.

1. The school accepts no responsibility for loss, damage, or theft.
2. Phones must be turned off and kept in bags throughout the day, including social time. Once the blue line has been crossed on entering school, mobile phones should not be touched, seen or heard until crossing the blue line again at the end of the day.
3. If phones are seen being used without permission, they will be confiscated and stored in the school safe. A sanction will be issued for this in line with the school policy.
4. Students/parents should not contact each other via a student's personal mobile phone during the school day. Please ensure any contact is made through the school reception.

A full copy of this policy is available on the school website under 'policies'

Key Fact about Social Media

A recent study by the NSPCC found that over 50% of parents weren't aware of age restrictions for Social Media. Did you know that WhatsApp has an age limit of 16 and that most other platforms have an age limit of 13, including Facebook, Snapchat, Twitter and Instagram, amongst others. This obviously means that no Year 7 student should be accessing any form of Social Media.

Period 7 / Whole School Detention

Hungerhill operates a Period 7, which takes place between 3.10 – 3.40pm. The rationale for Period 7 is to ensure that students have the opportunity to consolidate, complete, or catch up on work that has been undertaken in class or at home.

It is also used when students have not produced work that is in line with the expectations of the school.

Period 7 supports progress by ensuring that students do not fall behind, encourages organisation and allows students more time and support when completing work. Students who do not attend an agreed Period 7 will be placed in a whole school detention from 3.10 – 4.10pm.

Whole school detentions are given for the following reasons;

- Late to school / lessons
- Removal from lessons
- Non-attendance of a break / lunch detention
- Incorrect uniform or equipment

This process is currently under review and any changes will be communicated in due course.

Parents/Carer's Guide to Parents' Evenings

Parents' evenings are structured differently to the ones you will have attended at your child's primary school. This is due to the fact that your child is now taught by several different teachers, and sometimes they will have more than one teacher for certain subjects!

You will be given the date of the Year 7 parents' evening well in advance. Hungerhill has a parents' evening with tutors in the first term to discuss how students are settling in. A full parents' evening with subject staff is held in the academic year. This evening follows a full written Record of Achievement.

A few days before the evening, you will receive a letter with details of the evening and how to book your appointments with your child's teacher.

Your appointments with the teacher will provide an opportunity for them to tell you how they feel your child is getting on in very general terms, and for you to ask any questions or raise any concerns you have. If you or they have major concerns, the teacher will probably suggest a further, longer meeting at another time.

It is a good idea to take your child with you. It is good for them to hear the teachers' comments and feedback in person, but they can also to guide you around the school and help you find the right people!

Problems you may experience and what to do about them - A Guide for Parents/Carers

Falling out with friends or bullying

This can happen as children form new friendships and is, however unfortunate, a 'normal' part of growing up and our teenage years. As an adult, it is important to give objective advice and to not overreact, as from experience, this can make these situations worse and add further upset to the children involved. Children can get very upset about these problems but most friendship patterns tend to sort themselves out without adults getting involved. However, if you feel that your child is struggling to manage these situations or to make friends, we are here to help. Please encourage your child to speak to their Form Tutor or, if they feel they can't, make contact with them yourself.

The School takes bullying very seriously and was recently awarded the Bronze Anti-bullying Charter Mark from Doncaster Local Authority.

If you suspect bullying, then it is important that you contact your Head of Year. We have an anti-bullying policy at Hungerhill and children are encouraged to report acts of bullying immediately. Unfortunately, we increasingly find that many friendship issues start on, or become worse due to interactions on Social Media. We strongly advise that no Year 7 student has access to Social Media, in line with the age restrictions on each platform.

Worrying about particular lessons

Try to find out what your child is worried about or why they dislike a certain subject. If the problem is that they find the work too easy or difficult, it is important to spend some time working with them on the subject. It takes time for new teachers to find out individual's strength and weaknesses but if the feeling persists, please raise your concerns directly with the teacher or Curriculum Leader for that department.

Problems you may experience and what to do about them - A Guide for Parents/Carers continued

If it is because your child feels he/she 'doesn't like' a teacher, it may be the teacher's individual style which your child is taking personally. An important life skill is for children to learn it that you won't get along with everyone you have to work with, and a pragmatic approach is recommended. You must not try to run down a teacher in front of your child as this invariably makes the problem worse. If the problem persists, contact your child's Form Tutor or Head of Year. They may decide that a meeting to discuss and resolve any issue is required and will be able to set this up.



• Excellence • Respect • Resilience • Care • Honesty •

• Frequently Asked Questions

How many Tutor groups are there in Year 7 and what is meant by a sector?

There are nine tutor groups in Year 7, three in each sector. We have three sectors (A, B and C) in a year group; Sector A is made up of forms H, U and N, sector B is forms G, E and R and sector C is forms I, L and S. The tutor groups are all mixed ability groups, this also applies to each sector, they are carefully designed to be of equal ability levels based on students' Key Stage 2 assessments. There is sometimes a misconception that your child's tutor group and sector affect their social time and there is a fear that they may not see their friends at break or lunch. We can put your minds at rest about this as all students have the same break time and lunchtime. Lunchtime is split into sittings, but all of Year 7 are on the same sitting so your child will always be able to arrange to meet their friends at break and lunch.

How are the Tutor groups put together? Can I make requests about who my child is placed with?

We work really hard at Hungerhill to ensure that we get our Tutor groups as balanced as possible. We obtain extensive information from every Primary School about each child in the year group and engage in regular conversations with our primary colleagues (Headteachers and Year 6 teachers) when we are formulating our tutor groups. We try to ensure a balance of ability levels, sexes, primary schools, personalities and interests; it is a very carefully thought out and finely balance process. We have been made aware by our primary colleagues of any potential problems between students and have acted on this to ensure that they are kept apart. Our tutor groups are always checked over by Year 6 teachers and Headteachers before we finalise them to ensure that there are no potential issues. We are not able to accommodate friendship groups and will never ask our primary colleagues about this, we do however give a guarantee that students from our feeder primary schools will be placed in a tutor group that has a minimum of 2 boys and 2 girls from the same primary school to ensure some familiar faces.

• Excellence • Respect • Resilience • Care • Honesty •

Frequently Asked Questions

continued

Unfortunately, we are unable to guarantee this for students from out of catchment schools due to the numbers coming from each. We are not able to accommodate parental requests about which tutor group your child is placed in or who they are placed with/away from. We cannot change the tutor group of an individual once we have finalised them with our primary colleagues due to the finely balanced nature of the groups. We do believe that secondary school is an opportunity to spread their wings and form new friendships. It is also a time when some friendships naturally drift apart and we have found that this can actually be more problematic if the children are in the same tutor group. We will do everything that we can to help your child settle in and form new friendships as quickly as possible, usually the new friendships that children form at secondary school go on to become the strongest friendships they have. They will of course only be away from their primary school friends during lesson time; they will still be able to travel to and from school together, see each other at breaks and lunchtimes and attend extra-curricular clubs with them. If they are in the same sector, they may even have lessons such as maths, English and PE with them too.

What support will my child receive to help them settle in?

On their first day, your child will have a welcome assembly. During this they will be introduced to some key members of staff, including their Head of Year and their Form Tutor. They will then spend the full morning with their Form Tutor. Their Form Tutor will talk them through everything they need to know about their first few days and what they can expect. They will receive a planner (which includes lots of information and a map of the school) and their timetable and go on a tour of the school to help familiarise themselves with their surroundings. They will also be introduced to the Peer Mentors (Year 10 students) for their tutor group. These are older students who have chosen to give their time to help our new Year 7s settle in - they will become a familiar friendly face and an avenue of support for your child, particularly in their first few weeks here. They will also be introduced to our Year 11 Student Leaders who they can go to should they need any help or information. Our Student Leaders are easily recognisable by their blue ties.

• Excellence • Respect • Resilience • Care • Honesty •

Frequently Asked Questions

continued

What do I do if my child becomes upset or thinks they are being bullied?

We want your child to be as happy as possible at school and will do all we can to support them. If your child either becomes upset about anything or feels that they are being bullied, please encourage your child to speak to their Form Tutor, Head of Year or any other member of staff who they may feel most comfortable speaking to. If they feel more comfortable talking to another student, they may like to speak to a friend, a peer mentor or student leader (identifiable by their blue tie) who can speak to a member of staff on their behalf. Part of the journey through secondary school includes building the confidence of students to deal with issues directly, however if they don't feel confident to speak to either an adult or a peer, please contact your child's Form Tutor or Head of Year directly. Children will inevitably fall out and argue, so to help your child determine whether their experience is classified as bullying, we use the word 'STOP', which stands for 'several times on purpose'. If an issue can't be resolved at this level it will be referred to the Senior Leadership Team. Bullying is defined as "the repetitive, intentional harming of one person or group by another person or group, where the relationship involves an imbalance of power." Bullying is, therefore, deliberately hurtful, repeated over a period of time and difficult to defend against.

How early can my child arrive at school and where can they go?

Under normal circumstances the school gates open at 8am and your child is welcome to arrive any time after that. They can go to the Breakfast Club in the dining hall where a variety of breakfasts are available to buy. Students can also meet up with friends outdoors. Your child will need to be aiming to be at their form room for 8.35am ready for the official start time of 8.40am. Students will be considered late for school if they arrive at their form room after the 8.40am bell has rung. Due to covid restrictions this year we have operated a staggered start and finish to the school day.

• Excellence • Respect • Resilience • Care • Honesty •

Frequently Asked Questions

continued

This year Year 7 have arrived at 8.15am and left at 2.55pm. This will be reviewed for 2021/22 in line with Government guidance and this will be communicated in the Summer Holiday.

What uniform will my child need and where can I buy it from?

Looking smart and ready for learning is really important to us at Hungerhill. We feel that looking and feeling a part of the Hungerhill team helps to promote a positive, inclusive environment for learning. Please see the video and uniform page in the 'Parents' section of the school website for the specific uniform requirements. Our uniform can be purchased from Cliffs in Doncaster Town Centre or online at www.schoolwearsolutions.com - there is a link to this on the uniform page on our website. We highly recommend that you label all uniform and PE kit. It is almost impossible to return lost items to students if they are not labelled and this can also help solve disputes between students about what belongs to who.

Are there any special washing instructions for the school uniform?

Follow the washing instructions that are printed on the garment labels, or adhere to any instructions as given by the supplier.

on our website at www.hungerhillschool.com - you will find this within the 'Parents' section.

What should I do if my child is injured and unable to take an active part in their PE lesson?

Firstly, please write a note in your child's planner to explain the situation to their PE teacher. Your child will need to show this to their teacher on entering their PE lesson. Your child will still be involved in the PE lesson but not in an active way taking on roles such as a coach or official, or another leadership role.

• Excellence • Respect • Resilience • Care • Honesty •

Frequently Asked Questions

continued

For this reason, they are still required to bring their PE kit with them, however, they may bring appropriate warmer clothing such as tracksuit bottoms, a sweatshirt or waterproof jacket. This is so that they can be appropriately included in the lesson and to keep their uniform protected from the elements.

Where do we get bus passes from?

Please visit the 'Year 6 Transition' page in the 'Parents' section of our website and look for the link in the menu called, 'Apply for a bus pass'. This will take you directly to the page where you can apply for the MegaTravel Pass online - you will find step by step instructions once you are on that page.

What should I do if my child is unable to access their home learning due to issues with a computer, printer or internet at home?

Students will usually be given several days to complete home learning and we strongly advise them to complete this on the day it is set. One reason for this is that it gives them time to solve any of these sorts of issues. Students can use the IT facilities in the library before and after school to complete their home learning. If the issue is the printer, students can do their work at home and print it at school, it may also be good practice to email their work to their teacher in this circumstance. The key is to attempt their home learning early enough to be able to find a solution or talk to their teacher about any issues they may have with meeting the deadline - teachers are here to help. If all else fails, we ask that you write a note in your child's planner to explain the situation to their teacher. If the issue is not temporary, please talk to your child's form tutor or Head of Year who may be able to help find a solution.

What should I do if my child is too ill to attend school?

Call the school reception on 01302 885811 and inform our receptionists, giving the reason for the absence. If the number is busy when you call, please leave a voicemail.

• Excellence • Respect • Resilience • Care • Honesty •

Frequently Asked Questions

continued

If your child is ill for more than one day, please ensure that you call on each day of absence so that we remain fully informed. What happens if my child feels ill or has an accident?

What will happen if my child becomes ill or has an accident throughout the school day?

Please do not worry. If your child has an accident whilst they are at school, they will be seen by a Designated First Aider or our Health and Wellbeing Officer who will deal with each situation appropriately, following relevant First Aid training. If your child feels ill, they will be assessed by our Health and Wellbeing Officer who will call you to discuss, if this is necessary. On rare occasions, we may contact you to come to school and administer pain killers, such as paracetamol. We ask that, under no circumstances, your child contact parents and carers directly. It is essential that we are fully aware of children who are unwell within school so please encourage your child to come to a member of staff if they feel unwell.

What should I do if my child has an existing health condition or needs to take medicine?

In most cases your child's primary school will have informed us about any previous healthcare plans that are in place. If this is the case, you will receive a form to complete in your 'Starting at Hungerhill pack'. Please complete this and return it to school. If you do not receive a form in your pack, please email admin@hungerhillschool.com and we will email a form out to you. It may be necessary for you to meet with a member of our staff to discuss your child's needs in more detail - we will contact you if this is necessary. If your child requires medication such as an inhaler or an epi-pen then you will be required to complete a Health Care Plan. We advise that spare medication is kept at reception, clearly labelled with your child's name and tutor group.

Frequently Asked Questions

continued

What happens if my child is feeling unwell, but I have still sent them into school? Write a note in your child's planner explaining this. If your child deteriorates throughout the day, your child may be referred to our Health and Wellbeing Officer. Who will contact you if they feel your child needs to be at home or in the event of an emergency. Please ensure we have the correct details to contact someone in case of an emergency.

What are the school's rules on mobile phones?

We advise students to leave their mobile phone at home, however we understand that they may be useful on the journey to and from school. We are, therefore, happy for students to bring their mobile phone to school with them, however, from crossing the blue line at the gate in a morning, the phone must be switched off, and in their bag, until they cross the blue line again on their way out at the end of the day. Students are not permitted to use their phones whilst they are in school under any circumstances. They are all made aware that there are sanctions in place for taking advantage of these rules and are reminded regularly. It's also important that we let you know that if your child decides to bring their phone into school that they do so at their own risk, which means the school will not be able to take any responsibility for phones that are lost, stolen or broken.

What if I need to contact my child during the school day or they need to contact me?

We strongly advise that all general family arrangements are made before your child comes to school so that they can be focussed on school during the day. However, if you need to contact your child in an emergency, please contact the school reception who will ensure that the message is passed on if enough time is given for them to do so. If your child needs to contact you urgently during the school day they may go to the Student Support office where they will be able to contact home. If for any reason, no-one is available at that time in the student support office, then they may go to the main student reception.

Frequently Asked Questions

continued

What options does my child have for lunch and what are the arrangements for payment?

We have numerous hot and cold options available at lunchtime, from the sandwich and salad bars, to our hot 'grab and go' options and Pasta King, to the 'daily menu' hot meal options. Students are also free to bring their own packed lunch if they prefer. We operate a 'cashless catering' system at Hungerhill. You have the option of topping up your child's account online or by adding cash at the top-up points in the main reception. Your child will then pay for their food using either their fingerprint or a pin code once they have chosen their lunch. Please be sure to complete the necessary permissions on the electronic registration form to ensure that your child can purchase their lunch when they start with us in September. Please also ensure that your child's account is topped up sufficiently either through the online payment method or by providing your child with cash so that they can top up using the machines in the main reception.

How do I ensure that my child's details are kept up to date?

Parents/carers are required to complete the electronic student registration form which you will shortly be sent a link to. The link will also be included on the 'Year 6 Transition' page of our website. This form contains lots of details about your child such as their address, emergency contacts, medical conditions etc as well as a number of permissions forms that we require. If your details change at any time (e.g. contact details or address etc), please contact reception to request a 'change of details' form. Once completed, we will update your details on our systems.

My child has had an item confiscated, why and what do I do?

The School does not allow phones out of bags or other technology items, these and any other inappropriate items will be confiscated and stored in Main Reception.

• Excellence • Respect • Resilience • Care • Honesty •

Frequently Asked Questions

continued

Parents/carers can collect these daily between 3.10pm and 4.30pm. Please be aware that we may be required to hand certain banned items to the Police.

What happens if my child receives a Period 7 / whole school detention?

You will be notified when your child is required to attend a Period 7. Failure to attend a Period 7 will result in further sanctions being applied, in accordance with our school policy. My child is unsure of Period 7 or detentions, what do they need to do?

Students must check when they have a Period 7 or detention, they will not be reminded. If your child is unsure they can check initially with their Form Tutor who may be able to help as long as they have their planner and it is up to date.

What should I do if I or my child has a problem with an instrument lesson?

Please don't address problems to the instrumental teacher. You should encourage your child to speak to Miss Crowder, Head of Performing Arts, to discuss the problem and any solutions. If they are not confident to do this, you are welcome to contact Miss Crowder with your concerns either by leaving a telephone message or by emailing her at crowder.n@hungerhillschool.com

What do I do if I want to take my child out of school for a holiday?

Family holidays should be taken during school holidays. Please note as per the Government Guidelines: holidays in term time are only authorised in exceptional circumstances and you should seek authorisation before booking. Ask your child to collect an application form from the Attendance Office/Reception. You should complete this and submit it no later than 4 weeks in advance of the proposed absence.

• Excellence • Respect • Resilience • Care • Honesty •

Frequently Asked Questions

continued

You will receive a letter informing you whether your request has been authorised or not. Unauthorised holidays will receive an Educational Penalty Notice (Fine) See Policy for further details.

Does Hungerhill have a website?

Yes, the Hungerhill website has lots of valuable information, such as the curriculum, policies, news, etc. There is also a section that contains important letters that are sent home via students. Our website is a very valuable tool that will help you and your child understand life at Hungerhill School.

<http://www.hungerhillschool.com>



• Excellence • Respect • Resilience • Care • Honesty •



Hungerhill School



**Brighter
Futures**
Learning Partnership Trust

World Class Schools

Ofsted
Outstanding
Provider

Hungerhill School
Hungerhill Lane
Edenthorpe
Doncaster DN3 2JY

T: 01302 885 811
F: 01302 880 384
E: admin@hungerhillschool.com
W: www.hungerhillschool.com