



Welcome to

# Holly Lodge High School

A guide for students moving into year 7

# How should I get ready for my first day?

Welcome to the Holly Lodge High School family, we understand that it can be a daunting experience to join a new school so we have created this handy booklet to help you learn all the information you will need and to remind you that there is nothing to worry about as everyone is friendly and welcoming. We can't wait to see you in September.

## Your uniform should be:

- Blazer with school badge (badges can be purchased from school)
- White shirt
- School tie (ties can be purchased from school)
- Black school trousers (denim or fashion trousers not allowed)
- OR Black school skirt, the skirt must be no shorter than knee length and no longer than mid- calf
- OR Black V-necked tunic, that allows shirt and tie to be seen, between knee and mid – calf length with black school trousers
- If a belt is required it must be a plain, black one without elaborate buckles
- Black school shoes (not trainers or pumps)
- Headscarves must be plain black
- Royal blue jumper or cardigan with Holly Lodge logo (no other jumper/cardigan is acceptable)

## Equipment you need to bring:

- Sturdy school bag
- Plain black or dark coloured coats are acceptable in cold or wet weather, bright coloured jackets or hoodies are not acceptable.
- Pencil case
- Black or blue pen
- Purple pen
- Pencil
- Ruler

## TOP TIPS:

Pack your bag the night before school

Plan your route before your first day

Trainers are not allowed as school shoes

Unnatural hair colours, coloured nails and excessive jewellery are prohibited at Holly Lodge High School



You will be able to buy any stationery, for a small fee, at school in the first week

Please don't bring any phones or electronic equipment as they are not allowed on the school site, if you need one for the journey you must make sure that it is switched off and put away before entering school

See our  
website for  
the latest PE  
kit



## What happens on my first day?

We are so excited to meet you and show you around the school. On your very first day it will be just Y7 students in school, so you will have the place to yourself to get used to the building and find your way around.

You will be provided with a map and have a tour of the buildings, you will also get to meet your form tutor, who will spend time with you and get to know you a bit. You will spend lots of time in your tutor group as well as having a whole year assembly in the hall where you will learn about the Holly Lodge High School values which are:

### **Ambition | Opportunity | Community**

At lunch you can see how the canteen works and get hot and cold food, or have your packed lunch. If you need to buy food you should bring some money. A meal deal is currently £2.50. We will also show you where to top up your water bottle.

School ends at 3.10pm, you can see what enrichment clubs are on offer in the first few weeks. Clubs are usually on for around an hour after school.



### **TOP TIPS:**

Keep your water bottle topped up all day for good hydration

Energy drinks and chewing gum are strictly not allowed

You can bring or buy snacks for break time too!



## What happens on a normal school day?

School starts at 8.45am, so you need to be here by 8.40am. It is so important that you are at school on time and in the correct uniform. This will be checked everyday.

You will see your tutor every morning before lessons start, so you have chance to ask for help or talk about any problems or worries you might have. We have 6 lessons of 50 or 55 minutes. There is a morning break and then 2 lunch sessions (some years have first lunch and some years have second lunch).

Did you know that some of our buildings are really old, and our school was created in 1922? Because of this we have lots of history and tradition, we also have many buildings. Don't worry you will soon know your way around, and you will be

given a map to help you.

You will also be given a timetable which tells you where you need to be for each lesson.

## Subjects you will study:

English

Art

Science

Business

Mathematics

Computing

Design and Technology

EAL (English as an  
Additional Language)  
(if needed)

Drama

Geography

History

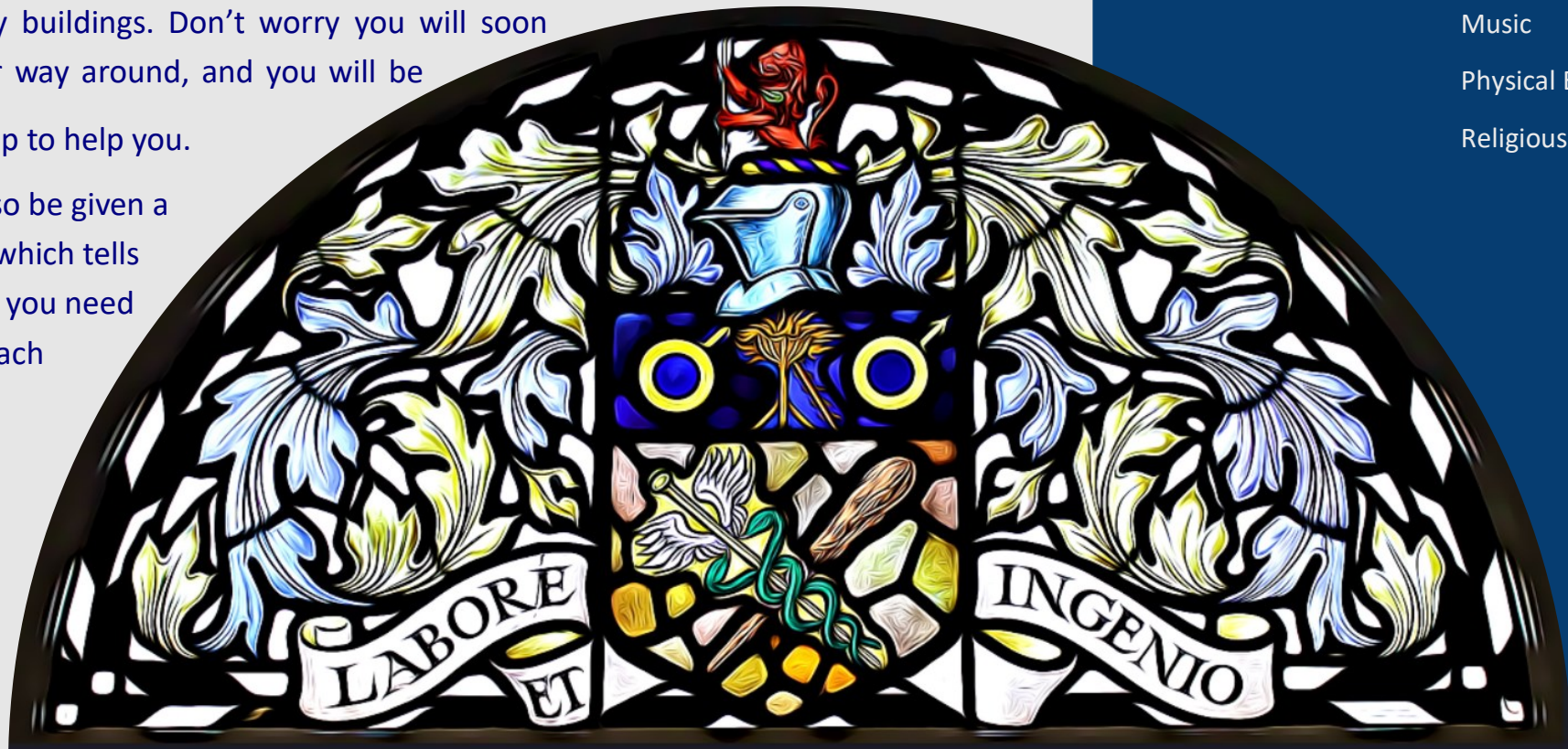
SEN (Special Educational  
Needs) (if needed)

MFL (Modern Foreign  
Languages)

Music

Physical Education

Religious Studies



## What activities can I enjoy?

You will be able to see the enrichment timetable in the first weeks of school, we also have a very active Combined Cadet Force, and from Y9 you are able to take part in the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme. As well as sporting and active clubs we also have loads on offer for the arts and reading.

At Holly Lodge High School we love a good trip and we have loads planned for you throughout the year.

### Fantastic Facilities:

- Dedicated music facility with practice rooms and studio
- Large library
- ICT Rooms
- School hall with stage and lighting
- Fully equipped technical facilities for Science, Design and Technology, and Art lessons
- Large canteen
- Loads of outdoor space
- Dance studio
- Gym and fitness areas
- 2 Multi-Use Games Areas
- Grass sports pitches
- Two sports halls
- Sixth form



## What do I need to do?

We do not apologise for our very high standards at Holly Lodge High School.

You will be expected to come to school, on time, every day if you are well and we have behaviour standards that you will have to meet.

We have a rewards system called **ClassChart**, where your parents and carers can see how you are doing. We also use this for homework. All students and their parents are given usernames and passwords for this system, and teachers will show you how to log on when you join us in September.

Everyone at Holly Lodge High School lives to our values, including staff.

## Homework

At Holly Lodge we believe that homework is very important, both because it helps you to learn and achieve excellent grades, and because it builds habits of independence and self-discipline that will help you to succeed at university and work. Our homework for Year 7 is based around 100% sheets - these are sheets for students to learn off by heart at home, similarly to how you will have learned your spellings and times tables at primary school. Your teachers will quiz you on them in lesson and you can earn Positive Points for your scores



**Ambition:** At Holly Lodge we believe that a truly excellent education should be the entitlement of every single young person. This means we pursue an ambitious, knowledge-rich curriculum, made accessible and memorable for all. We believe that our curriculum and teaching should equip students to pursue high-flying further study and careers on their chosen paths, and to join “the great conversations of humankind.”

**Opportunity:** An education at Holly Lodge represents many, many fantastic opportunities, from the learning itself, to extra-curricular clubs, to trips, to life-long friendships made. We see opportunity as a value in itself: it is a way to see the world, to notice, seize, and make the most of the opportunities we are so fortunate to have.

**Community:** Communities are valuable because together we are stronger. At Holly Lodge we value our school community and the wider community we serve as a school. Community is based on respect: tolerance, trust and consideration. It is also based on kindness: we do things to help others because it is the right thing to do. Finally, we take responsibility: we are independent thinkers and we have the power to make the world a better place – it is up to us to do so, in our actions every day.

## Holly Lodge Values



# What if I need help?

We are all here to help you on your journey to adulthood. If you are having any worries you can talk to your tutor, your Year Leader, your Assistant Year Leader, or any member of staff.

Everyone here knows what it is like to start secondary school, and we have probably seen and heard any query or worry that you have, so don't be scared to speak up and share what's on your mind.

If you need support with English, or if you have Special Educational Needs, we have brilliant support systems in place and these departments will find you and make sure you know all about what's being planned for you and how to

get support.

If we feel that there are any issues with your behaviour or any other aspect of meeting our high expectations, we will get in touch with your parents and carers and make a plan of action so that you are able to meet our high standards with all the support from school and home that you need.



[transition@holly-lodge.org](mailto:transition@holly-lodge.org)



**Mrs D Southall**  
Deputy Headteacher  
Safeguarding and  
Pastoral



**Mr K Burns**  
Assistant  
Headteacher  
Behaviour, Standards  
and Ethos



**Mr J Pierce**  
Deputy Headteacher  
Teaching & Learning  
and Outcomes



**Mrs A Jordan**  
EAL Coordinator



**Mrs Z Evans**  
SENCO



**Miss C Williams**  
Health and  
Wellbeing  
Coordinator



**Mr I Iqbal**  
Headteacher



## TOP TIPS:

Don't be scared to ask if you have a question - email [transition@holly-lodge.org](mailto:transition@holly-lodge.org)

Look out for our 'Transition Buddies' if you need any support

You can talk to staff about anything, or if you feel more comfortable emailing, we have the TALK system where you can get support on school days.

Just email [talk@holly-lodge.org](mailto:talk@holly-lodge.org)