



Northgate High School

New Year 7 - FAQ

Bus Passes

All school transport is coordinated by Norfolk County Council Passenger Transport. If you require a bus pass or are unsure if you qualify for one please follow this link for further advice and support. You will also find bus timetables and designated route maps for pick up and drop off points.

<https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/education-and-learning/school-and-college-transport/home-to-school-transport/apply-for-school-transport>

With regards to transport during COVID-19 restrictions please follow Government advice as this will change between now and September.

Clubs

Northgate offers a wide variety of lunchtime and after school clubs. This list changes throughout the year and if you want to start a club and there is enough interest we can always look into this. For the current list of clubs offered at school please follow the following link:

<https://www.northgate.norfolk.sch.uk/clubs/>

SEND

Mrs Beasley our SENCO and Assistant Headteacher has been liaising with all the primary schools to get a full picture of need prior to September. She has also been putting together a series of extra transitional support packages to reduce any anxieties.

Once Mrs Beasley has all the information about additional provision from primaries, she will be contacting parents to discuss this further and to agree provision for Year 7 and where possible, the support that is in place at primary school is mirrored at secondary. If you would like to discuss SEN provision with Mrs Beasley please contact her on lbeasley@ng6.unity-ed.uk

Lunchtime

The school provides a set hot meal, a selection of healthy foods and a variety of snacks daily. There are designated outdoor seating areas around school for packed lunches in addition to seating in the canteen. We operate a cashless catering service so no money is required in school. The form to sign up for this system was part of the online form you have already replied to. This will allow an account to be set up or added to an existing pupil for you to top up money on their account. Your child can also put money on their account in school if required.

At present there are no restrictions on food consumption regarding allergies, however we are aware of pupils with minor allergies and request pupils be careful and respectful of this. All food available in the canteen has allergy information available. This is subject to change depending on our intake.

Uniform / Houses

Please see the following link (<https://www.northgate.norfolk.sch.uk/school-uniform/>) for a full list of uniform expectations at Northgate High School. If you are unsure please ask us before you purchase an item. All school uniform and PE kits are available from Birds Clothing Online or at their Warehouse.

With regards to Houses, we operate a House system that runs alongside our Pastoral support. We have 4 Houses, Holmes (Yellow), Rowling (Red), Hawking (Blue) and Attenborough (Green). The House your child is in is allocated following completion of the admissions form. Where possible siblings are placed within the same House and all pupils are notified in June/July of their House. The House you are in will affect some aspects of uniform and you should wait for this information before purchasing any. Houses are chosen by Mrs Graves to allow a further mix of pupils and broaden social opportunities. Houses are non-negotiable and remain for the child's duration at Northgate.

Transition and Summer School

Summer School - At present there are no plans for this due to current Government guidance. If this changes we will inform you with as much notice as possible. We will however be sending work and a curriculum map out to all new Year 7 students to allow those that want to prepare more thoroughly for High School.

Transition Week – Under current Government guidelines this will not happen in its usual way. The safety of our community is at the forefront of this decision and we will be looking at alternatives to enable all students to get an experience of High School before starting in September. Further information will follow regarding this once certain guidelines and restrictions we are operating under are removed or relaxed.

Form Groups and Classes

Form groups are a pastoral support network your child will have throughout their time at Northgate. They will see their form tutor daily and they will be your initial point of contact. Forms are allocated based on conversations with Year 6 staff and Mrs Graves. Mrs Graves is currently working on allocating all pupils to a form and where possible your child will know someone from their school in their form. If there are no other pupils attending Northgate from your primary school we will endeavour to match you with another pupil from another school with similar interests. You will be notified of your form in due course. Form groups are assigned a "Peer mentor" from upper school who will help with any aspect of settling in.

Classes have been decided to be mixed ability until at least Christmas due to the lack of data from SATS. This will give pupils time to settle into High School and a working routine in addition to allowing our experienced staff time to assess pupils and set where appropriate. As with form groups, Mrs Graves is in the process of looking at teacher information from Year 6 staff to help with this, and where possible your child will know someone from their school in their class. Classes and timetables will be available on your child's first day at Northgate. On their first day they should report to the main hall.

General Concerns

Timing of the School Day

Please see the link for the School Day (<https://www.northgate.norfolk.sch.uk/school-day/>)

Pupils can arrive at school from 8am as staff are on site from this time. There is a limited breakfast option offered by the canteen. At present there are no activities or clubs before school starts at 8.45am.

As you can see from the School day there is movement time built in between lessons for pupils to go to their locker, the toilet and move between lessons. We are aware that in Year 7 moving from class to class may prove a challenge for some and as such we will be lenient over being "late/lost" for the first few weeks. There will be a Peer Mentor system in operation to help navigate the site and all the pupils and staff will always be on hand to point you in the right direction.

Lockers

All pupils at Northgate receive a locker. It is expected for all bags to be placed in lockers throughout the day and only essential items are taken to class. If your child has PE then they are permitted to have their bag on the way to and from PE.

Homework

All Homework at Northgate is set on our online platform Show My Homework (SMHW). Parents and students get a log in for this and means all homework can be kept track of and nothing can ever "get

lost" or forgotten! All subjects set homework and we recommend on average a minimum of 30 minutes home learning per week per subject. Homework is staggered across the week and appropriate time is allocated for its completion.

Bullying

Northgate High School has a zero tolerance anti bullying policy

(<https://www.northgate.norfolk.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/Anti-Bullying-policy-Northgate-2019.pdf>)

As per our 2017 Ofsted report "pupils told inspectors that they feel safe in school, that bullying is rare and that it is dealt with appropriately if it happens". Consequently we provide a network of support and educate pupils through assemblies and lessons on appropriate social interactions. We have a team of anti-bullying ambassadors and fully support and promote anti bullying week every year.