



## Transition Questions



### **How will I know where to go for my classes and what if I get lost?**

You will be given a map at the start of the year to help you navigate. We also have lots of staff out of their classrooms to help direct you. Our buildings are named so you will quickly get used to what subject is located in a certain building. You won't get a consequence for those first few weeks at Wellington.

### **Can year 7s join all clubs/teams/groups and what is the process for this? Can I apply to be a librarian? How do I find out how I can join the rock band/musical performances?**

Year 7 can join as many groups as they want to – in fact we'd recommend it in your first weeks at Wellington so you get to know as many of your peers as you can (this really helps you settle in). There will be a booklet given to you after your first week at school which will tell you every club at break and lunch – you can then plot which ones to attend. You don't have to sign up, you just go to the room where the club is. Mrs. Firth, our LRC manager, will direct you on application for being a librarian.

### **What will we do at school in the first few days? When will we find out who we are in tutor group and teaching groups with?**

On our first day in September we have a lot of work to do to help you settle in further. For the first four hours of that day, you spend it with your tutor group. You will be: sorting through your timetable, having your photographs done, have a fire drill, plan your day. You will then start lessons period 5 that day.

**Tutor Groups** – Once all the forms have been returned – we start to place you in tutor groups so hopefully we can have that information to you as soon as we can (we will double check, verify and contact if any issues). **Teaching groups** – Probably when you arrive on your first day at the school. We start to sort them in the last week of term and into the summer holidays.

### **Are there options for lunch if you have a food intolerance?**

We have many options for students with a variety of dietary requirements; our catering staff are very experienced in helping direct you to what is available. Just talk to them when you arrive in our Dining Hall.

### **What time is lunch break?**

On Mon, Weds, Thurs and Fri – your break is 10.50-11.10am.

On a Tues it is 11.00-11.20am due to an extended tutor period. Every day your lunch break is at 1.10 p.m.

### **How many lessons will I have in a day? How does lunchtime work? Is it school dinners only or do people bring packed lunches? What time do we start and finish?**

5 lessons a day – split two before break, two before lunch and one after lunch.

The whole school have lunch at the same time with year groups having specific timings to queue for the dining hall. You can do either packed lunches or school dinners. School starts at 8.30am and finished at 3pm. You will change classrooms each lesson.

**How could we help to study at home? What are the study sources? How frequently are the exams?**

We will be providing a 'top tips' to help your child study at the new parent evening on the 1<sup>st</sup> July. We have many study resources available in our LRC. At Key Stage 3, we have two formal assessment points in the year (alongside other formative assessment/low-stakes testing) – a full timetable of which is sent home well in advance of the assessments.

**How much homework is there?**

You will be provided with a homework timetable of when each subject is scheduled to set homework. This will help with your organisation throughout the week. We would suggest getting into a good routine early in September. How much will depend on your timetable, but it should be two pieces of homework an evening but no more than three.

**Worried about the first day and where to go?**

No need to worry – I know that's easy for me to say – you will find everything out like this on new pupil day. It will be our picnic bench area which is just as you walk through the front gates of school.

**Will I be able to use my Chromebook to help me with my written work? Are you allowed to bring sweets in for the class when it is your birthday?**

If this is part of your established support educationally ('normal way of working') then absolutely you can use your Chromebook to help – but we should know that information before you start so it is in place for September. That goes for any additional educational requirements. In terms of sweets – I would recommend you do this with your tutor group (but as long as I get one 😊)

**How much time do we have to get from one lesson to another, for example, if I have a lesson in one building and my next lesson is in another building.**

The change-over of lessons is by a bell system at the school and when dismissed by your teacher you will be made your way sensibly to your next lesson. As long as you arrive promptly with the rest of your classmates there will not be any issues. If you are late with good reason, just explain to the teacher!!

**If I'm not in the same class as my friends does that also mean we can't meet together at break or lunch times?**

Of course, you can meet up at break and lunchtimes – just organise a place to meet that becomes familiar.

**Do all classes/year groups have lunch at the same time? Do all classes have a certain area to sit and eat their lunch or is it one-year group at a time?**

All years have lunch at the same time but you are given times to specifically access the Dining Hall. You can sit where you like at lunch.

**I am scared about getting lost and getting a detention for being late. I wonder if I will be allowed to go to the toilet when I need too**

Great question – a lot of students feel exactly this way. Firstly, as mentioned earlier, it is likely you will get lost initially – therefore we know there will a chance of you being late so do not worry about detentions. If you need the toilet, just ask your teacher – it is the teacher’s discretion, but the toilets are always accessible from any classroom.

**I am worried about teachers shouting and I think it will be hard to get to know lots of different teachers. I am worried about making new friends because my closest friends are going to a different school.**

We are not a “shouty” school, so I want to calm your nerves on this perception you have. You will be amazed at how quickly you will get to know your teachers. We have lots of activities on our first day to help you build new relationships with new students – we will help you.

**What type of jewellery can we wear, the dress code and make-up?**

We will issue an appearance code with all our documentation which will states all of this clearly.

**What will I do if I feel very stressed? Is there a homework club? What if I get too overwhelmed?**

We are experienced in helping students regulate to a calm state when stressed and manage their anxiety. We will help you build that resilience by looking at techniques to help those stress levels. Mrs. Conyers’s can be contacted by your teachers daily to help with these worries. Everyone experiences stress and feeling overwhelmed (me included), so we will always help. There is a large caring team of trusted adults around all our students.

Yes, there is a homework club in the LRC until 4pm every day.

**Which languages will I learn? Am I in the Spanish year? When do we find our form groups?**

So, students will be placed into a teaching group and they will study either French or Spanish. More information to follow on this at a later date. We will be asking if there is any compelling reason why a student should follow a certain language (for example, you have a specific language speaking family – not just because you holiday in that country) – like I say that will come at a later date.

**Is it scary meeting new people after I get into Wellington?**

I think in any stage of life there is a bit of apprehension in meeting new people – you are out of your comfort zone!! The times I have done it – I am nervous and unsure but once I have done it, I always think, “why was I so nervous?” We will help you through this challenge and have lots of activities and strategies to help meet new people. This is just part of life and one I know you will cope with.