

# Winterhill School Y6 Transitions

2020-21

**Y6 Transitions Information Pack – September 2020**

Dear Parent/Carer

I am extremely pleased to confirm that your child has been allocated a place at Winterhill School, and we are very much looking forward to welcoming them as a Year 7 student. Contained in this pack, is information about the expectations we have of your son/daughter when they join us, and information about the transition itself. The dates are not definite, as we continue to be guided by the government and DfE guidelines with regards reopening, but we will contact you as soon as we have any updates.

As you know, your child will be joining a high achieving school, where we put great emphasis on personal development as well as academic achievement. Alongside this, we expect everyone to uphold our 'Winterhill Way' ethos of showing respect, responsibility and resilience. It is these values which uphold all aspects of school life, underpinned by our guiding principle that, 'Everyone Succeeds'.

Of course, during such challenging and uncertain times, there will be some increased anxiety around the important transition to Winterhill School. However, I would like to take this opportunity to reassure you that the staff at Winterhill School have been working extremely hard in ensuring that this transition will be as smooth as possible, by working with your child's current school throughout this academic year. Of course, when we are able to return to school, we will be in contact with details of events where you can meet myself, your child's group tutor and other key staff who will all be supporting your child's education at Winterhill.

In order to prepare for your child's arrival at Winterhill, we are continuing to put in place the support networks they may need, as well as organising important information to ensure your child can continue to build on the excellent progress they have made during their primary years. In order to do this, and if you haven't completed it already, there is a 'Transitions Data' accessible via the school website and returning to school by post, or preferably email using [transitions@winterhill.org.uk](mailto:transitions@winterhill.org.uk).

I look forward to meeting you all in the near future and working with yourselves throughout your child's time at Winterhill. In the meantime, please take care and stay safe.

Yours sincerely

**Mr. S Rhodes**

**Headteacher**



## WINTERHILL SCHOOL – SCHOOL DAY

I am hopeful that our Y6 students will be attending Winterhill from **Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2020**, where they can begin a 2-week Transition Package. During the summer term, there will be opportunities for key staff to visit the Y6 students in primary schools, and where this is not possible, we will offer this to students via ZOOM/Google Meet. Furthermore, there will also be a 'virtual' tour of the school and video messages from key staff, including myself, on the school website, so that you are all able to have some introduction to Winterhill before September.

### **Normal School Day**

You are asked to ensure that your son/daughter arrives at school for 8.30am, in time for morning registration, and that they are aware of the arrangements made for the journey home at 3.00pm. On their first day, they will need to make their way to the main hall, located upstairs. There will be a large number of prefects, peer mentors as well as key staff circulating around school to support all Y7 students in navigating their way around the building.

Our tutor groups have been creating taking lots of different things into consideration, including which primary school they attended. This will allow Y7 students to get to know their new peers from different schools.

Within their lessons, they will also be supported with by older students who, work as Peer Mentors, who are there to support and welcome our new Y7. These peer mentors will be attached to their forms supporting at the start and around the change of lessons to ensure the Y7s learn to navigate their way around school.

All Y7 students will be released from school at 2.55pm to make their way home (5 minutes before Y8-11 leave) for the first two weeks in school. At this time, they will become your responsibility as parents. We need to inform you, as parents, that for reasons of health and safety, you are not allowed to drive into the school's car park to collect your son/daughter. However, if during the school day you are asked to collect your child from school, it is permitted to drive onto the school site.

We also have a split lunch system in school. Years 7 and 8 have their lunch break 11.55am to 12.30pm, and Years 9-11 have their lunch break between 1.10pm and 1.45pm.

8.45am			Registration and Group Tutor Time
9.10am	–	10.25am	Period 1
<b>10.25am</b>	–	<b>10.40am</b>	<b>Break</b>
10.40am	–	11.55am	Period 2
<b>11.55am</b>	–	<b>12.30pm</b>	<b>KS3 lunch (Y7/8)</b>
12.30pm	–	1.45pm	Period 3
1.45am	–	3.00pm	Period 4
<b>3.00pm</b>		<b>End of School Day</b>	
3.00pm	–	4.00pm	Enrichment Activities

We are very proud that we offer a vast range of enrichment activities to our students in school, so please encourage your son/daughter to engage with these from September/October, when they arrive. There is something for everyone, and many of our students join clubs/activities most evenings within the week. Our library (Learning Resource Centre) is also open from 8am in the morning to 4pm Monday – Thursday.



## WINTERHILL SCHOOL – SCHOOL LATES / ABSENCE

### School Lates/Absence Procedure

Students will be classed as late if they are not in registration by 8:45am. We use our registration period as part of our PSHCE curriculum time, and therefore they miss out on a valuable learning opportunity if they are not present. This is an important part of the school day; ensuring students are ready to learn and know important information for the day ahead. It is the responsibility of parents to ensure that their son/daughter is not only attending school regularly, but that they are also punctual.

Good attendance and academic achievement are intrinsically linked, and therefore, we will work closely with parents to enable excellent attendance is achieved.

### Notifying absence

We operate a 'text' system in school for all of our students in all years. If on any school day your son/daughter has not been marked present in their registration period, or at the start of period 1, then you will receive an automatic text to your mobile phone informing you that they are not present.

### Illness and Medical Absence

If your son/daughter is ill, you must inform **Winterhill School (01709) 740232** on the first day of absence. This must be followed with a letter to their Group Tutor to explain the reason. We need to be informed in advance of medical appointments via letter or appointment cards.

### Term time leave

The **Winterhill Learning Community policy** is that, no students will be permitted 'term time leave' in the last 2 weeks of a Summer term or the first 2 weeks of a September term, so it is likely that if leave was requested in these weeks, it would be unauthorised, apart from if it was deemed 'exceptional circumstances'.

### Emergency contact details

Please help us to keep your son/daughter safe by informing us of any changes in your contact details. This is to ensure that we are able to contact yourself, or one of your representatives, in the case of an emergency.

Please have additional alternative contact details available for these situations.



## **WINTERHILL SCHOOL – TRAVEL PROCEDURES**

### **BUS TRAVEL**

#### **THORPE HESLEY/CHAPELTOWN STUDENTS**

Students who currently live on route between **Winterhill** and **Thorpe Hesley/Chapelton** will be able to catch **'Cawthornes' bus** in the morning and the afternoon. A levy will be attached to this that parents can sign up for. It will work out at about £40 per half term, but this guarantees them a place on the double decker bus before and after school. This does work out cheaper than if they were they to catch a Mainline/First bus before and after school, throughout the half term.

#### **Other areas**

'First' buses can also be caught from various other areas to travel to and from school. (Timetables will need to be checked nearer the date). Bus passes (MEGATRAVEL passes) need to be applied for online from First buses before your child starts at Winterhill.

Your child will need to be in school for 8.30am, on a daily basis, so it is important that they look at the bus timetables to ensure that they know which buses they need to catch in order to get them to school for this time.

#### **MegaTravel Pass**

You can apply for an 11-16 Megatravel Pass through the following website link  
[www.travelsouthyorkshire.com/megatravelpass/](http://www.travelsouthyorkshire.com/megatravelpass/)



## WINTERHILL SCHOOL – SCHOOL LUNCHES

### Arrangement for lunches/buying food

Students are not allowed to leave the school premises during the school day, and therefore will not be allowed to go off site at break or lunchtimes. They will not be allowed to go to the shop during the school day, and if found off site, unless for a prearranged appointment, will be assumed to be truanting and sanctions will be applied.

We have three areas in school where students can buy food for lunch. In addition, there are at least **2 areas open for buying food before school and at break times**. We now operate a Biometric account for your child to access their school meal account. This means your child will use their fingerprint when purchasing school meals. The parent consent form is available from the 'Transition Data' booklet.

### **How does my son/daughter pay money into their account?**

There are a number of ways that money can be paid in to their food account. Where possible, money paid in before school or at breakfast club will be in their account by break for the purchase of snacks.

- Put **money** (coins and notes but not 1p,2p,5p or £2 coins) directly on to the account using any of the **3 cash machines** located around school (these also have fingerprint recognition on them). These machines are also set up to take £5, £10 and £20 notes.
- **Parent Pay**, which is an online cashless payment system and details of this is available via the school website.

Students will not be provided a meal if there are not sufficient funds in their account. However, we will obviously not allow students who have forgotten their money to go without food. If a student finds that they haven't got money on their account for lunch, they must go directly to their BfL (Behaviour for Learning) team, and arrangements will be made for them to access a lunch.

On their first day, it is advised that students bring at least £2.40 in change and they will then be taught the process of putting money onto their account, if students wish to put money on their account for a full week, this is usually around £12. We do not know yet whether the price of school meals will be going up centrally, so it is always preferable for the students to have a little extra.

### Free School Meals

Students in receipt of free school meal allowance, will have an allowance placed on their card for the days they attend during July. This is **currently set at £2.35** (current March 2020) **per day**. This allowance cannot be used at break time. After lunch time, any money from the allowance that hasn't been used will be removed from the account.

It is only an allowance and students will be expected to pay the extra if the food they have chosen costs more than their allowance (credit will already need to be in their account for this purpose).

Additional money can be placed in their account to purchase food at breakfast or break, though we do offer a free breakfast service for any students who are in receipt of free school meals, or are eligible for Pupil Premium. We acknowledge the importance of a good breakfast to start the day, so we try to provide this through our Pupil Premium Funding allocation to those students who are eligible.



## WINTERHILL SCHOOL – UNIFORM EXPECTATIONS (GIRLS)

### School Uniform and Appearance (GIRLS)

The expectation of school uniform for girls is as follows: -

<b>Skirt</b>	Plain black material of a reasonable length
<b>Trousers</b>	Plain black tailored trousers (not leggings or tight-fitting trousers/jeans)  <b>NB Trousers must be worn outside boots at all times and boots must be below the knee.</b>
<b>Shirt</b>	Plain white school shirt, with a suitable collar for a tie.
<b>Tie</b>	School design – a clip-on tie must be worn by all students
<b>Jumper</b>	‘School design - ‘V’ neck with school badge (jumpers / or a school cardigan are compulsory)
<b>Cardigan</b>	Black with school badge – school supplier only (jumpers / or a school cardigan are compulsory)  <b>A school jumper/cardigan is compulsory and other jumpers/cardigans can’t be worn instead of the school jumper.</b>
<b>Socks/Tights</b>	Plain black socks/tights
<b>Footwear</b>	<b>Plain black outdoor shoes are required – Please note training shoes of any style, shape or colour are not acceptable.</b>  No flip flops, open toed sandals or backless sandals are allowed (Health and Safety)  If boots are to be worn in the school building throughout the day, then they must be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plain black</li> <li>• Flat or very small heel</li> <li>• Ankle length</li> <li>• Leather type material</li> </ul>

**Trousers MUST be worn outside boots at all times.**

**Students may wear any other boots to school but must change into usual uniform school shoes on entry to the school building; if they don’t fit the criteria above, their boots must be kept in their school bag throughout the rest of the school day (or in a locker if available).**

**Outdoor coat** Leather jackets, denim jackets and sports top are not acceptable. Outdoor coats should not be worn in the school building. **Blazers are not part of the school uniform and are not allowed to be worn.**

**Please note that the school accepts some variations to school uniform that are required by religious and cultural norms (e.g. plain black headscarves/hijab). All uniform should be clearly marked with the student’s name.**

**DISCREET MAKE UP ONLY – NO BASEBALL CAPS – NO TRAINERS – NO HOODED SWEATSHIRTS**



## WINTERHILL SCHOOL – UNIFORM EXPECTATIONS (BOYS)

### School Uniform and Appearance (BOYS)

The expectation of school uniform for boys is as follows: -

<b>Trousers</b>	Plain black tailored trousers (not tracksuit bottoms or jeans)
<b>Shirt</b>	Plain white school shirt with a collar and a top button
<b>Tie</b>	School design – a clip on tie must be worn by all students
<b>Jumper</b>	‘School design - ‘V’ neck with school badge (compulsory)
	<b>A school jumper is compulsory, and other jumpers can’t be worn instead of a school jumper.</b>
<b>Socks</b>	Plain black
<b>Footwear</b>	<b>Plain black outdoor shoes are required – Please note training shoes of any style, shape or colour are not acceptable.</b>

If boots are to be worn in the school building throughout the day, then they must be:

- Plain black
- Flat
- Leather type material
- **Not** a particular specific fashion style e.g. Doc Martens

**Trousers MUST be worn outside boots at all times.**

Students may wear any other boots to school but must change into usual uniform school shoes on entry to the school building; if they don’t fit the criteria above, their boots must be kept in their school bag throughout the rest of the school day (or in a locker if available).

**Outdoor coat** Leather jackets, denim jackets and sports tops are not acceptable. Outdoor coats should not be worn in the school building. **Blazers are not part of the school uniform and are not allowed to be worn.**

**NO BASEBALL CAPS – NO TRAINERS – NO HOODED SWEATSHIRTS**





## **WINTERHILL SCHOOL – PE UNIFORM EXPECTATIONS (GIRLS and BOYS)**

### **PE KIT (Boys/Girls) – expected from September 2020**

**Compulsory Items:**      Encore Hoodie sweatshirt (black, purple & white)  
                                   Encore round neck T-Shirt (black, purple & white)  
                                   Encore shorts (black, purple & white)  
                                   Black football socks

**Optional Items:**        Plain black tracksuit bottoms (Pinders do sell these with the Winterhill logo on)  
                                   Black Sports leggings (these cannot be fashion leggings from Primark, etc).

### **Additional requirements**

(Girls) Training shoes (any brand/colour); Football boots (essential only if in Girls Football team);

(Boys) Football boots, Training shoes (any brand/colour); Gum shield

## **SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS**

### **Hair**

Hair must also be tied back, so a spare bobble should be included as part of the PE kit, for safety reasons if your son/daughter's hair requires this.



## **WINTERHILL SCHOOL – UNIFORM EXPECTATIONS (ALL STUDENTS)**

**Jewellery** No jewellery is to be worn with the exception of **one plain pair of studs** for students with pierced ears and a **single ring** (finger).

**NB** – we discourage the wearing of jewellery for reasons of safety – studs, if worn, must be removed for PE. **ALL JEWELLERY MUST BE REMOVED FOR P.E.**

We strongly advise that students don't wear jewellery of sentimental value in school, because if it is damaged or lost, we will not be able to replace it.

**Nose studs, lip and tongue rings and studs, and naval piercing jewellery are not allowed and students will be expected to remove them, if worn in school.** It will not be acceptable to have them taped up.

**Equipment** **Students need to bring on a daily basis**

- A bag large enough to carry books, equipment, PE kit
- Student Learning Record (this will be provided)
- Pens, pencils, ruler and an eraser in a pencil case
- Pencil crayons, sharpener and felt tips (optional)
- Basic scientific calculator (this will be needed for September onwards essentially)
- PE kit on specified days on their timetable
- Their personal dinner card (this will be provided in the first instance)

**School uniform can be purchased in Rotherham Town Centre from**

**Pinders** College St, Town Centre, Rotherham S60 1QB 01709 720043

**Jonny D** 33 Howard St, Town Centre, Rotherham S65 1JQ 01709 370032

**Suitable plain black school shoes can be purchased from**

**Wynsor House** Woodhouse Green, Thurcroft, Rotherham 01709 540876



## WINTERHILL SCHOOL – SCHOOL TIMETABLE

During Y7 and Y8, our students study the full range of subjects. Within this timetable, they will be studying subjects from across the National Curriculum. Some of these will be as tutor groups, some in mixed ability and some in ability groupings. They will have PE at least once in the week, but they do not need to bring their PE kit on the first day in school. If they have PE on their first day, the PE department will arrange an alternative activity that they will not need to change into PE kit for.

Generally in Year 7, they will study as mixed ability groups for:

Registration/Period 1

Science

MFL

All Year 7 students will study either Spanish or French

ICT/Computer Science

History

Religious Studies

Geography

Technology

They will study in mixed ability, mixed tutor groups for

Music

Drama

Art

They will initially study in mixed ability groups, but during Y7 these will be reorganised into broad ability groups, for

English & Maths

PE

These groupings may change during the year, if we feel that it would benefit your son/daughter academically to do so. As they progress through school, students may be grouped according to ability in more of their subjects.

### **Knowledge Organisers**

To enable Parents to follow what their sons/daughters doing we produce a 'Knowledge Organiser' for each half term that contains ways that you can support your son/daughter in their individual lessons, and some guidance on homework that they will need to complete. Individual pieces of homework will be set alongside their 'Knowledge Organiser', and there will be an expectation for these to be completed on a weekly/fortnightly basis. The 'Knowledge Organiser' enables you to support them through their Key Stage 3 studies. These booklets will also be posted on our website for students and parents to access so that they can be reprinted from there if the students misplace their first copy.



## WINTERHILL SCHOOL – ENRICHMENT/HOME LEARNING

### Homework

Homework will be set on a regular basis by all teachers, and will be outlined on a number of electronic packages including **'SHOW MY HOMEWORK'**, **'GOOGLE CLASSROOM'** and **'HEGARTYMATHS'**. We can provide log on details for yourself, so you can monitor what homework/extended learning tasks your child is expected to be doing at home. These platforms provide information for you, and them, to enable them to complete their work successfully.

### Online access

We have moved to including an online learning platform **'GOOGLE Chrome'** to our array of ways that students can access learning resources. Staff are able to set work on here, that students can then complete within the system. This only requires students to be able to log in to Google Chrome and the work can be completed within there.

If students haven't got WiFi access at home, there are opportunities during the school day, and after school, for students to access their homework from these platforms, in our Library.

### Enrichment Activities

In most cases, these will run from 3.00pm until 4.00pm after the main school day. We actively encourage students to become involved in these activities, and hope that you too will support them in these ventures. These activities are, in the main, free of charge. Students would be informed if there is likely to be any cost to joining a club, or whether the club is likely to run beyond 4.00pm. Each term, the range of Enrichment Activities available are published on the school website. If your son/daughter is representing the school in competitions or matches, it is likely that this will run past 4.00pm, and the students will be transported to and from external events by the school. A voluntary minimal donation towards the cost of transport may be asked for on these occasions.

### Outside Agencies/Activity Providers

Outside agencies do, at times, run a range of other activities at Winterhill. These are often chargeable but 'Pupil Premium' funding can sometimes be applied for by qualifying parents, for these activities.

### Student Voice

We actively encourage students to express their opinions about all aspects of school life. We do this through registration SEAL activities and discussion, Year Councils, Safer Schools Committee, Year Voice to name but a few. We want to ensure that Winterhill is a community that they feel they belong to and can be proud of, so please encourage your sons/daughters to express their ideas.



## **WINTERHILL SCHOOL – PARENT VOICE/ENGAGEMENT**

At various points during their education at Winterhill, we will organise Parent Voice/Information Evenings for you to attend. Please support us in supporting your child, and if you have ideas that could help our community to grow, please do not hesitate to pass those opinions on to us. During Year 7, there will be a number of these opportunities for you to come into school, including a Parent Forum event in Oct/Nov 2020, a Group Tutor Parents' evening in Nov 2020 and a full Y7 Parents' Evening in May/June 2021 amongst others.

We promise that we will continue to support you as parents in providing you with information to keep your child safe and progressing. Please look at our website as it provides many helpful tips for supporting your child from home, both academically and personally, and provides information regarding cyber safety and major school events.

You can tell us how we are doing as a school by completing a survey online through OFSTED Parent View. You can do this for all the schools that your children have attended by registering on the website:

<https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/login?destination=give-your-views> .

We value the opinions we gather through this survey, and you are able to complete this as parents once per academic year for each school your child/children attend. If you would like to talk to us directly, please do not hesitate to contact us at school through all the main methods email on [admin@winterhill.org.uk](mailto:admin@winterhill.org.uk), or by phoning (01709) 740232. If you need to talk to a specific member of staff, this may not be possible when you ring in, as they may be teaching or engaged in meetings, but we will try to get ack to you at the first opportunity available.



## WINTERHILL SCHOOL – WEBSITE

Our website has recently undergone a substantial upgrade. We would like it to be a tool that parents and students can use to enable their learning experience at Winterhill to be enhanced. Please check the website regularly as it continues to develop and as updates on school events are released.

The following sections may be useful to you as parents:

### School section

This is a general section pertaining to the school in general, including these sections among others

- **Admission Policy**
- **School Policies**
- **School Publications**– copies of the last few editions are stored here, so you are able to see a snapshot of the activities that our students are involved in.
- **Statutory Policies and links**
- **School Holiday Dates**

### Curriculum section

This section has information about the Curriculum we offer our students, including modifications for students who may struggle in mainstream

- **Access Curriculum**
- **Curriculum Overview** – Y7/8 – this is where you can find the current Parent Engagement booklets to support your son/daughter
- **Options Curriculum**
- **SMSC**
- **Subject pages** – overviews of the different subjects available in school

### Parent section

This contains lots of information relevant to you, as parents. It includes, amongst other items

- **Calendar**
- **E-safety**
- **Parent letters/news**
- **SEND**
- **Safeguarding** - information in various languages as to how we safeguard your children, in addition to a specific **E safety Section** with advice about keeping children safe online
- **School Holidays**
- **Year 6 Transition** – information directly linked to transition will be published in here. There is an e mail link for you, or your sons/daughters, to use to ask any questions about their forthcoming transition.



## **Student section**

This contains various pieces of information related directly to the students including:

- **Remote Learning**
- **Careers Advice**
- **Extra-curricular/Enrichment** – list of activities that are being provided on a daily basis for students to attend from 3.00pm – 4.00pm in most cases.
- **Enterprise opportunities**
- **Google Classroom/Google Drive**
- **Student Voice**
- **Safeguarding, SEND and Student Support** – this contains links to the sections of support available to students in school including inclusion, safeguarding, external website links etc
- **Show My Homework**
- **Useful Student Links**

Please visit our website regularly, as it is constantly being updated to make it more useful to the whole of our School Community, and there is much more information on there for you to access than the above summaries.



## **WINTERHILL SCHOOL – TRANSITION INFORMATION**

You will receive further information throughout July, in the lead up to transition in September, regarding the form group that your child has been allocated to and the arrangements for their first day in school.

Our Primary Liaison and Transition team, are already in consultation with your child's current school to obtain information about your son/daughter's learning needs, so that we will be able to support them thoroughly through Transition and move to Winterhill.

### **Contacting school June-July 2020**

We do acknowledge that students and parents may be anxious, and you are welcome to contact Heidi Cooper at any time through [transitions@winterhill.org.uk](mailto:transitions@winterhill.org.uk) with any questions that you may have. It may also be possible to organise phone calls or face to face Google chats with you during June and July.

If you feel that you would like to talk to someone as there are additional pieces of information you would like to share with us, please do not hesitate to contact the Transition Team at Winterhill by requesting a call back through [transitions@winterhill.org.uk](mailto:transitions@winterhill.org.uk). Please leave a number that you wish us to contact you on, and outline if you can, what you would like to discuss (this does not require full details just the area of discussion) i.e. vulnerability/SEND concern/Safeguarding concern/parental contact concerns/information, and we will aim to get back to you as soon as we are able.

For any further information please contact Mrs Heidi Cooper (Senior Transitions Co-Ordinator), via email [transitions@winterhill.org.uk](mailto:transitions@winterhill.org.uk).

