



**HIGH STORRS** SCHOOL



# Welcome to High Storrs School

## DESIGNED FOR SUCCESS

Here is your student guide to High Storrs School.  
It has all the information you need to help you get off to a great start!





## What do I need for my first day?

Although we don't have a school uniform, we have a few standards for clothing:

- Take off head coverings inside the school building (this doesn't apply to headscarves).
- Remove coats in lessons and assemblies.
- Cover midriffs and underwear and shorts/skirts should not be excessively short.
- No explicit or offensive images or slogans on clothing.
- No excessive jewellery.
- Wear suitable footwear.

Remember to bring suitable clothing for all weathers, and sun lotion and sunglasses when it's hot.

Also, tie your hair back and remove jewellery in practical lessons, such as P.E. and Science.

## P. E. and Dance uniform

- Plain black t-shirt, hoody/jumper, black shorts or tracksuit bottoms or sports leggings (or dance trousers in Dance).
- Indoor trainers or a change of footwear (which might include football boots).
- A plastic bag to store any wet/muddy clothing or footwear.

## You will also need to bring the following equipment with you every day...

- Writing pen, black or blue.
- Pencil.
- Pencil case with your name on it.
- Rubber.
- Ruler.
- Maths set.
- Reading book.
- Bottle of water.
- Packed lunch (if you don't have school dinners).
- Backpack to carry it all.

You can purchase stationery from Student Reception and via ParentPay.

## Don't forget

You will have books for your lessons, and you can apply for a locker so that you don't need to carry everything around all day.

Pack your bag the night before so you don't need to worry about it in the morning.

Make sure you know your route to school and bus timetable, if you are coming by public transport.

## What is expected of me?

We know you will only be able to do your best if you feel happy, safe and supported. At High Storrs, everyone acts responsibly and treats each other with respect.

We have some important values, and when everyone acts according to these values, it helps keep High Storrs a warm, welcoming community.



## Stand Up Against Discrimination

We'll introduce you to our 'Stand Up Against Discrimination' statement. We treat everyone fairly and we stand up against discrimination of any kind including racism, sexism and discrimination based on disability, sexual orientation or religion and belief. If you are a victim of discrimination, speak to someone or email [safe@highstorrs.sheffield.sch.uk](mailto:safe@highstorrs.sheffield.sch.uk) or your Head of House.

## Celebrating success

We believe in celebrating success rather than focusing on where you haven't met our expectations. But, we have a clear system of sanctions which you can find on our website.

## What happens when I have done well?

We will praise you and celebrate when you have done well. We will award commendations for:

- Independence.
- Determination.
- Participation.
- Community spirit.
- Kindness.
- Impressive work.

Headteacher's Commendations are given when you go above and beyond in the categories above... and we will send a postcard to your parents/carers too!

Your House will hold Celebration Assemblies to recognise pupils who have received high numbers of commendations. We will also celebrate achievements in areas such as 'Most Improved' and Attitude to Learning (A2L) (more on this later). Your commendations will appear on your tracker too.

House Awards will be awarded to the House with the highest combined total commendations. This House wins the School Shield (to be awarded at Sports Day).





## Where do I fit in?

We have four Houses:



Our Houses are named after four Sheffield theatres.

Each House has students from Year 7 to 11. You will also be part of a 'Vertical Form' which is made up of children in your House, across each year. You will meet with your form at the beginning of every day. This is a brilliant way to get to know pupils from across the school. The older pupils will be happy to help you settle in and give advice.

## Teaching Groups

You will be part of a Teaching Group which is made up of the Year 7s from half of your House.

For example, Year 7s in Crucible Vertical Forms 1 to 5 will make up Teaching Group Crucible X, and Forms 6 to 10 make up Crucible Y.

## What happens if I need help?

You can speak to any adult at the school if you have any worries or need help, but the best people to speak to are:

- Your Form Tutor. You will see them every day and they will get to know you really well.
- Your House Student Support Assistant. You may see them if you need a longer conversation. You can find them in your House Office between 8am and 4pm daily.
- Your Head of House, who oversees your progress in school.

They can help with things like friendships, issues online, worries about schoolwork or issues at home or outside school.

You can speak to whoever you feel most comfortable talking to. They will listen and help.

## The Head of House and Student Support Assistant for each House are:

- CRUCIBLE: Mr Tattersall and Mrs Lomas.
- LYCEUM: Miss Ashley and Mrs Osborne.
- MERLIN: Mr O'Connor and Mrs Stephens.
- MONTGOMERY: Mr Mallaband and Mrs Gaughan.

**The older pupils will be happy to help you settle in and give advice.**



## What else will you do to look after me?

### Online safety

We take online safety very seriously. You will have an IT induction when you join us. You will have your own username and password. You must keep this safe and secure.

You will be able to access our school's MLE (student school site) and internet and send email. You can also access the school MLE and email from home (after we set you up at school).

In your induction and in your PSCHEE lessons, we will talk about online safety and appropriate use of IT facilities. We also celebrate Safer Internet Day annually. We will talk to you about how to act safely and responsibly on the internet and the risks involved of being online.

You will sign our Acceptable Use Policy before we give you access to school IT.

You should not attempt to access unsafe/inappropriate content and it will be blocked (but we will monitor attempts to access such content!). If you see anything online that worries you, please speak to an adult at school or your parents/carers.

### Anti-bullying culture

We do not tolerate any form of bullying, including cyber bullying.

If you are being bullied, you must immediately tell an adult at school. You can speak to anyone and they will help. We also encourage your parents/carers to tell your Head of House if they have concerns. You do not have to deal with this by yourself! And remember, nothing can be done unless you tell someone. You can always email [safe@highstorrs.sheffield.sch.uk](mailto:safe@highstorrs.sheffield.sch.uk) if you or someone else feels unsafe.

We work hard to ensure our school provides a culture that does not accept bullying:

- We do not tolerate verbal abuse wherever it occurs, particularly homophobic, transphobic, sexist and racist language.
- We teach about the causes and effects of discrimination in lessons such as PSCHEE, History, R.E. and in form time, and we celebrate diversity.
- Our non-negotiables and values require all pupils to respect the rights of others.
- We do not tolerate violence.
- We take part in initiatives such as Anti-Bullying Week.
- We provide strong support to any Year 7 pupils who have experienced bullying at primary school.
- We provide staff supervision at lunchtime and breaks.
- We deal effectively with perpetrators.

**You do not have to deal with this by yourself! And remember, nothing can be done unless you tell someone.**





# What will my school day look like?

There are five lessons and a morning and lunch break.

|               |   |
|---------------|---|
| 8:35          | Morning Bell  |
| 8:40 - 8:55   | Registration  |
| 8:55 - 9:55   | Period 1  |
| 9:55 - 10:55  | Period 2  |
| 10:55 - 11:10 | Break   |
| 11:10 - 12:10 | Period 3  |
| 12:10 - 12:50 | Lunch Break   |
| 12:55 - 13:55 | Period 4  |
| 13:55 - 14:55 | Period 5  |
| 14:55         | End of School Day                                   |
| 14:55 - 16:00 | Monday to Thursday:<br>Homework Club in the Library |

You will also have assembly once a week during your registration slot.



# Don't worry if you get lost

You will move between classrooms for lessons. Don't worry about getting lost or being late when you are settling in, though... it happens to us all. To help, we will give you a map and a copy of your timetable with classroom numbers and subject details. We will help you find your way around and give you extra support until you are settled in.

Everyone is here to help. If you lose your map or timetable or can't find your way, just ask.



# What will I study?

You will continue to study areas of the curriculum you have studied before and some new subjects. Your teachers will be experts in the area they are teaching.

In Year 7 you will study English, Maths, Science, French, P. E., D&T/Food, Dance, Drama, Art, Music, History, Geography, R.E., PSCHEE, ICT and Classics.

# How should I study?

We will teach you how to learn effectively by helping you develop your 'Attitude to Learning' (or A2L). It will help you build excellent learning habits that will ensure you make the most of your time with us. We love this quote:

*"We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act, but a habit."*

We will help you develop habits and strategies that will help you not just at High Storrs... but for the rest of your life!

You can learn how to be excellent. We also believe that mistakes are a vital part of learning, so don't worry about getting everything right first time.

# What facilities are there at High Storrs?

We have lots of brilliant facilities, including:

- Dance Studios.
- Music Suite.
- Drama Studios.
- Activity Studio.
- Sports Hall.
- Library.
- D&T Design and Manufacturing Rooms.
- Science Labs.
- Huge Playing Field.
- Fitness Suite.

# What clubs and activities can I do at High Storrs?

We have lots of brilliant clubs and trips at High Storrs. There is something for everyone, whatever you are interested in. Clubs and trips are great for making new friends and they give you the chance to find out more about yourself. Clubs are run before and after school, and during lunchtimes.

There are sport clubs and teams for Badminton, Basketball and Football.

Clubs depend on demand but in the past we have run Christian Union, Drama, Dance, Chess, Art, Beginner's Latin, Duke of Edinburgh Award, Maths, Film, Star Wars, Mindfulness and many Music Groups. You can also access Learning Support Clubs and the Homework Club.

You can also take part in critically acclaimed annual school productions.

You can continue music lessons or learn something new. We will send information to your parents/carers.

We hold a Freshers' Fayre in September for you to see what's on offer and sign up. You will be offered once-in-a-lifetime opportunities when you are at High Storrs, so don't hold back and have a go at something new.



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## What about homework?

Homework is an important part of your learning. Homework will build on what you have learnt in your lessons and will help you develop a deeper understanding of what you are learning.

We will load your homework onto Satchel One, which details what you need to do and when you need to hand it in. You can load the app onto your phone, tablet or PC.

We know some of you will worry about how much homework you are going to be given. So we phase it in gradually when you start, by giving you just an hour of homework each week for Maths, English and Science (with Classics and Art for small periods of time). And your teachers will set deadlines which are reasonable.

This will get you used to managing your schedule and time to learn how to use the app. In term two, you will get homework for History, Geography and French.

## Doing your homework

We expect you to complete your homework on time and to a good standard. You also need to manage your own schedule, so you allow enough time to get it done but also have time for other activities such as school clubs.

We have a few tips for tackling homework:

- Check your homework when you get it, to make sure you understand what you need to do.
- If you don't understand something, ask the teacher and they will help.
- Have a break when you get in from school before you start. You will need a short rest after school.
- Make sure you have a quiet space where you can concentrate.
- Switch off your phone! You will finish your homework much quicker if you aren't distracted.
- When you get your homework, look at what other commitments you have and plan when you are going to do it.
- Don't leave it to the last minute, as you will rush it.
- Check it when you have done it.

## Homework Club

We run a Homework Club after school, where you have access to school IT and a quiet space to work. Lots of pupils find this works well for them.

# Homework is an important part of your learning



## FAQs

It is quite normal to have worries about starting at a new school, and even more so when you are moving from primary to secondary, so here are answers to the most common questions.

## How will I make friends if no one from my primary is coming to High Storrs?

Most students don't know many other students when they start. Some students don't know anyone at all. We make a special effort to make sure that you settle in and make new friends. We can even put you in touch with other students who are coming on their own (via your parents/carers). Your parents/carers can let us know if you would like us to arrange this.

## What happens if I get lost or am late?

If you get lost, ask a member of staff or older student and they will help. Don't worry if everything seems big and confusing – you will soon settle in.

If you arrive after 8.55am, go straight to Student Reception and sign in. We will ask you to give a reason for your lateness. If you arrive after 11am without an explanation from your parents/carers, we will record it as an unauthorised absence. We keep a close eye on absences.

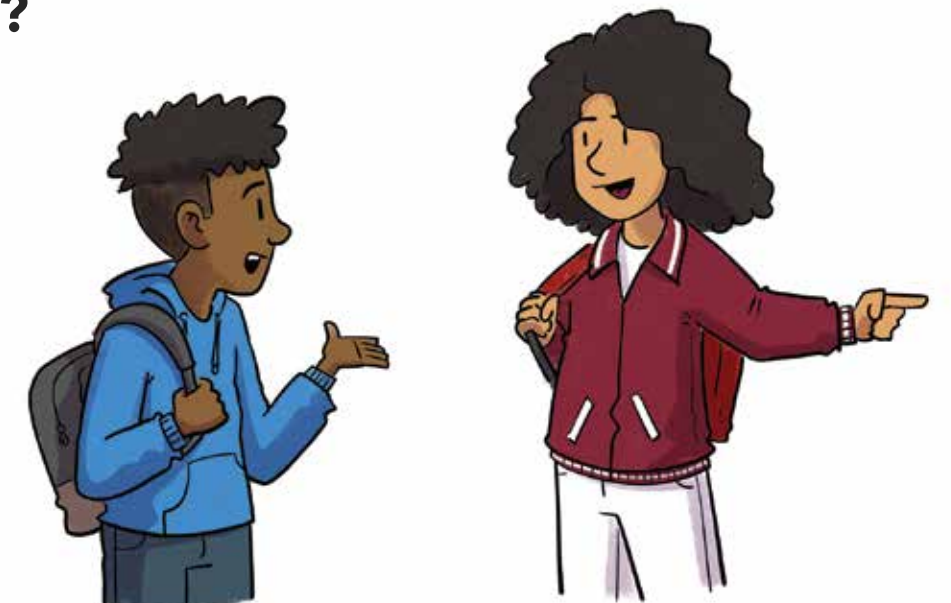
## When can I use the toilets?

Normally, you may not go to the toilet during lesson time as this disrupts lessons. Make sure you use the toilets during break times. We know that sometimes there are emergencies, so if you really need to go, ask your teacher.

## What happens if I feel ill during a class?

If you feel ill in a lesson, let your teacher know and they will contact one of the On Call team who will help you.

If you are ill or are injured during break or lunch, report to Student Reception.



## What happens if I have a dental or other medical appointment in school time?

We don't recommend having appointments during school time as this disrupts your studies. If it cannot be avoided, your parents/carers need to email [attendance@highstorrs.sheffield.sch.uk](mailto:attendance@highstorrs.sheffield.sch.uk) and your Head of House to let us know.

## What happens if I am absent?

Your parents/carers should contact school to explain via the school's absence line (0114 267 0000) or via the 'My Ed' app.

## What happens at lunchtime?

We recommend you visit our deli bar or dining room. We have a fantastic range of food available, including snacks, sandwiches and main meals. We always have vegetarian and Halal options. You can also bring a packed lunch from home.

We have lots of designated areas where you can have your food; we ask that you only eat in these areas.

There are also indoor and outdoor areas for you to relax with your friends.

## How do I pay for food in school?

At High Storrs we operate a 'Cashless Catering' system. Your parents/carers top up your account via ParentPay, and you then pay for your meals electronically. The easiest way to do this is via fingerprint.

You can also pay by cash by putting cash in a machine and using a pin code. If you would like more information about this, contact Dawn Rose in the School Office via [enquiries@highstorrs.sheffield.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@highstorrs.sheffield.sch.uk)



## Top Tips for settling in at High Storrs



## The 'Non-Negotiables'

We are proud of our caring community atmosphere at High Storrs. We have high expectations of behaviour. If everyone follows some clear and simple rules, it creates an environment where you can study without distractions and feel happy and secure.

### Attitude

- Do as you are asked first time.
- Stick to the dress code.

### Respecting each other

- No swearing, discriminatory language, fighting or bullying.

### Respecting our environment

- Only eat in the dining room or deli bar, in flexible lunch spaces, or on the field.
- Do not litter – use the bins.

### Safety

- Enter and exit school via the right entrances. Where you are not otherwise directed, these will be the pedestrian entrances. Arrive on time.
- The following items are banned on site: energy drinks, chewing gum, alcohol, cigarettes, tobacco, smoking and vaping paraphernalia, knives or weapons, and illegal drugs.

## It is also important to have standards in the classroom to keep it a space where everyone can learn

- Walk sensibly and safely on your way to and from class. Follow the one-way system.
- Put electronic devices away when you come into the school.
- Come into the classroom quietly and be prepared for your lesson.
- Take coats off, put bags away and get books and equipment out.
- Sit in your allocated seat.
- Listen to what your teacher tells you.
- Behave politely and respect your teacher and classmates.
- Put your hand up when you ask a question.





# What our Year 7s say

*"I already know my way around the school, and I have only been here for three weeks. If you lose your timetable, don't worry because your form teacher always has a spare one."*

*"From meeting new people to making new friends, High Storrs is a school where everyone is included and supportive of each other."*

*"Within the first week, I already knew most of the school."*

*"What we also love about High Storrs is that we don't have to wear any uniform!"*

*"The new subjects are really interesting and there are many to discover like Classics, Computing, Food Tech and PSCHEE."*

*"I was in your shoes last year and wondering what life in secondary school was going to be like... after only a few weeks here, I feel very comfortable... and I feel quite at home!"*

*"I'm happy at High Storrs and I feel safe. I'm happy that I chose this as my secondary school!"*

**Starting secondary school is a big change.**

**There is a lot to take in, but you will quickly feel at home. Ask for help if you are having any problems. We expect everyone to work hard, but we want you to be happy and enjoy your time with us!**



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