

Welcome to Huntcliff School: An Academy for Success



*Be The Best
You Can Be*

How will you help me get ready for my first day?

We think it's very important to make you feel welcome and get you off to a great start with us, so we do lots of things to help make your transition from your primary school as easy as possible.

Your Form Tutor will contact you and your family over the summer term to introduce themselves. You will see your Form Tutor every day and get to know them very well.

Key staff from Huntcliff will have visited your primary school to tell you all about us. We also make 'welcome' calls to new families in the summer term to introduce ourselves.

We will invite your parents/carers to a coffee morning so they can get to know our school as well.

Transition Days

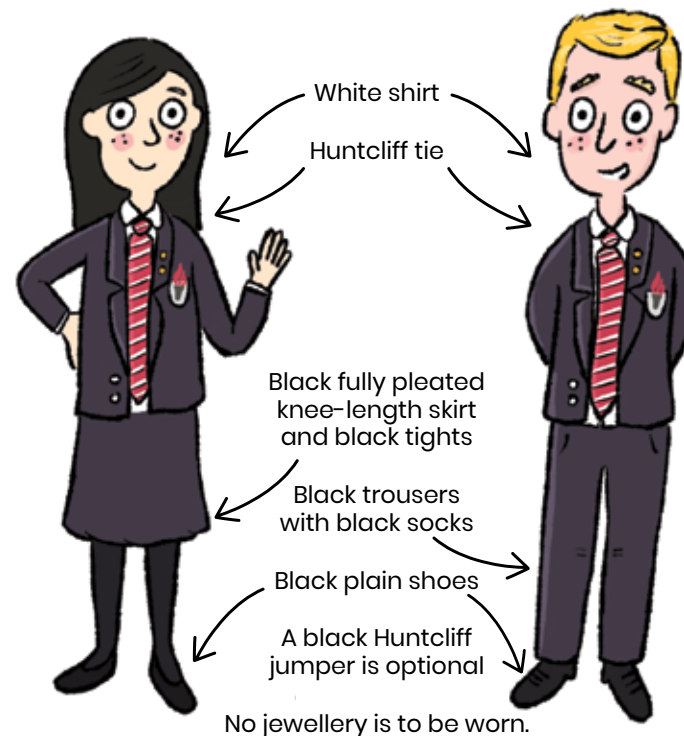
You will visit us during the summer term for two transition days. This will give you the chance to meet your new teacher, school staff, try out lessons, start to get to know your way round the school and, one of the most important things, meet your new classmates.



We also run a trip just for Year 7 in the first term. This will help you build friendships with your classmates and create memories.

What will I need for my first day?

We have high standards of presentation and we expect you to wear the complete and correct uniform from your first day.



You will also need to bring the following items of equipment:

School bag
Water bottle
Pencil case
Pen
Pencil
Ruler
Eraser

We will also give you your timetable and planner on your first day.

Do not use phones /smart watches or any other unauthorised electronic device in the school building. Please switch them off and place them in your bag while you are in school.

You will also need to bring a packed lunch or if you are eating in the canteen, make sure your parents/carers have put some credit onto your ParentPay account or bring in some cash. If you receive free school meals, we will have sorted all this out for you. You will use the same system as everyone else and we will talk about this when we see you.

What happens on my first day?

Everyone here remembers what the first day in secondary school feels like. We know you may be feeling excited and nervous and you may be wondering if you are ever going to feel at home. So we will do as much as possible to make you feel welcome and help you settle in.

On your first day, you will meet in the school hall for a welcome assembly with the Headteacher. Then you will go to your form room with your Form Tutor. They will give you a timetable and map of the school (there is also one in this book). Then you will go to the next lesson on your timetable.

You may be worrying about making new friends. Although you may know some pupils from your primary school, don't worry if you don't. You will soon make new friends.



By the end of the first week, you will find that you know Huntcliff very well.

What does a typical school day look like?

This is what the school day looks like in the lower school, which includes Years 7 to 9:

8.45am	School begins
8.45am – 9.10am	Form Tutor time/Assembly
9.10am – 10.10am	Period 1
10.10am – 11.10am	Period 2
11.10am – 11.30am	Break
11.30am – 12.30pm	Period 3
12.30pm – 1.00pm	Lunch
1.00pm – 2.00pm	Period 4
2.00pm – 3.00pm	Period 5
3.00pm	School closes

For the first few weeks, you will have an earlier lunch break than the rest of the school. Buses for Year 7s will also leave a bit earlier.

Don't worry about getting lost or being late. Older pupils will be allocated to your form to help you get to know the school site, and any of the staff or pupils will be happy to help you.

Food

We have a brilliant canteen where you can choose anything from snacks such as sandwiches and paninis to salads, pizza and even roast dinners. In summer, we even do ice lollies!



What will I study?

You will study a broad range of subjects. You will be familiar with some from primary school and some may be completely new to you.

Subjects include:

- **Art**
- **English**
- **Geography**
- **History**
- **Life (which includes subjects such as RE, PSE and PSHE)**
- **Mathematics**
- **Modern Foreign Languages**
- **Music**
- **PE**
- **Science**
- **Technology**

Your teachers will be experts in their subjects and teach you in a variety of interesting ways.

Homework

You will also be set regular homework. You will be expected to write down what you have to do. You will need to make time to complete it so that it is done to your best standard and on time.

This will be a big change from primary school, so plan out your time out of school so you can fit in homework and any other commitments you have, such as hobbies.



What will Huntcliff School expect from me?

We believe in making the most of all your time and want you to **'Be The Best You Can Be'**.

We want you to be happy and successful in your time with us and after you leave us. We have core values and by following them, you will develop ways of behaving which will set you up for the rest of your life:

- **Ambition**
- **Attitude**
- **Mindset**
- **Perseverance**
- **Readiness**
- **Respect**



We want you to have high expectations for yourself, have a positive attitude and believe that you can achieve. We want you to keep going when things are tough, be ready to take on challenges and have respect for others and yourself. Everyone at Huntcliff follows these values, both pupils and teachers!

Each week, we will nominate a 'Huntcliff Hero' for students who display a value consistently. They then get a badge for that value. You can receive merits in lessons for good examples of work, character or citizenship. Merits are collected and can be exchanged for prizes. We run reward trips too.

As you move up the school, you may also become a prefect and take a student leadership role.

What if I need help?

We want you to always feel happy and safe but we know that you will have worries and problems sometimes. We don't want you to keep your problems to yourself because we know that talking about things really helps.

You can always speak to your Form Tutor because they will be the teacher that you will get to know best.

But we also have a Pastoral Support team located in the Pastoral Support Office.

Whoever you speak to, they will listen. They can also help if you are concerned about another student.

We all look after each other at Huntcliff!



What extra-curricular activities can I take part in?

Life at Huntcliff is about so much more than what you study in your lessons.

We have a brilliant range of extra-curricular activities on offer, which will enhance your life!

We have lunchtime clubs and after-school clubs such as Lego club, language clubs and sports clubs.

We also run sports teams, including netball, football, athletics, badminton, dodgeball and many more.

We run trips to theatres, premiership sports fixtures and art trips.

We run The Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme as well, which you can take part in later on in your time with us.

You can help in running the school by joining the School Council. There are form representatives in each form.

If sports are your passion, we also offer Sports Leadership training.

We also take part in charity fundraising and run trips to museums, theatres or theme parks!

There is such a huge range of opportunities, and we know that there will be something that you will love. We also recommend trying something new. You may find a new lifelong interest.

Extra-curricular activities are also a great way of making new friends.

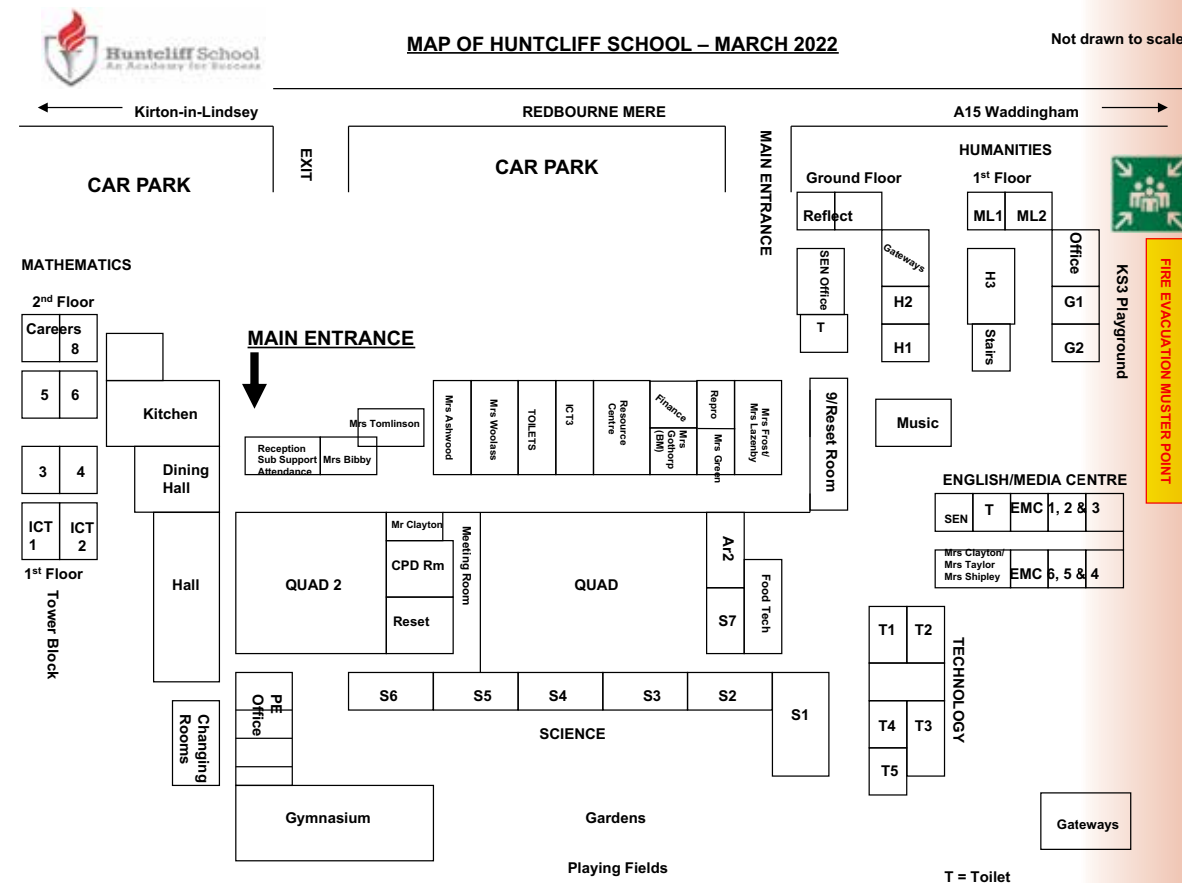
So set yourself a challenge and get involved!



Can I see where everything is at Huntcliff School?

We have brilliant facilities, such as fully equipped classrooms, a gym, gardens, playing fields and lots more!

Two places you should check the location of are the Pastoral Support Office, in case you need help, and the Finance Office, which is where you will collect your bus pass (if you have one).





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**We look forward to meeting
you soon and helping you on
your path to a brilliant future!**