

Welcome to

Inverclyde Academy



What is expected of me at Inverclyde Academy?

You are at the start of an exciting journey.

To help you settle in feeling happy, confident, ready to learn and able to reach your full potential, we have developed this book.

We are one big, caring community. We have a few values which help to make our school the best place it can be:

RESPECT:

Be kind and polite.

Treat others as you would like to be treated.

Respect your school and environment and do not litter.

Listen to your teachers, respect your classmates and allow them to learn.

RESPONSIBILITY:

Arrive on time, wearing the correct uniform and with all you need for your classes.

Take responsibility for your learning, ask if you don't understand something, and do your homework on time and to your best standard.

Take responsibility for your own behaviour and think about the effect of your behaviour on others.

Always try your best.

WELLBEING:

Try to make new friends across the school as these relationships will help develop your mental wellbeing. It is normal to have worries, especially when you start at a new school, so please ask for help if you are struggling with anything.

Look out for the expert advice from our current pupils.



What happens if I need help?

Your year group Depute, your Pupil Support Teacher and your Registration Teacher will get to know you very well. If you are having any problems in school or outside, please let them know. They are there to help.

If your parents/carers are concerned about anything that may have an impact on your schoolwork, they can also contact your Depute or Pupil Support Teacher.

The Deputes or Pupil Support Staff can be contacted by letter, telephone or email.

"Pupil Support help you to get through anything. Staff push you to do the best of YOUR ability. It's a big change but everybody helps you through it." Rowan

What happens if I have done well?

You will join Arran, Cumbrae or Eriskay House. When you have done well, your teachers may award you a token for your House. You can also earn silver and gold stars from the Depute Heads or Mrs Crawford. All awards count towards termly House competitions. You may even be invited to a special breakfast for pupils with Mrs Crawford if you have done very well.

"I like how the teachers want you to try your hardest — they give you guidance whenever you need it. There's a great atmosphere in the school." Ross

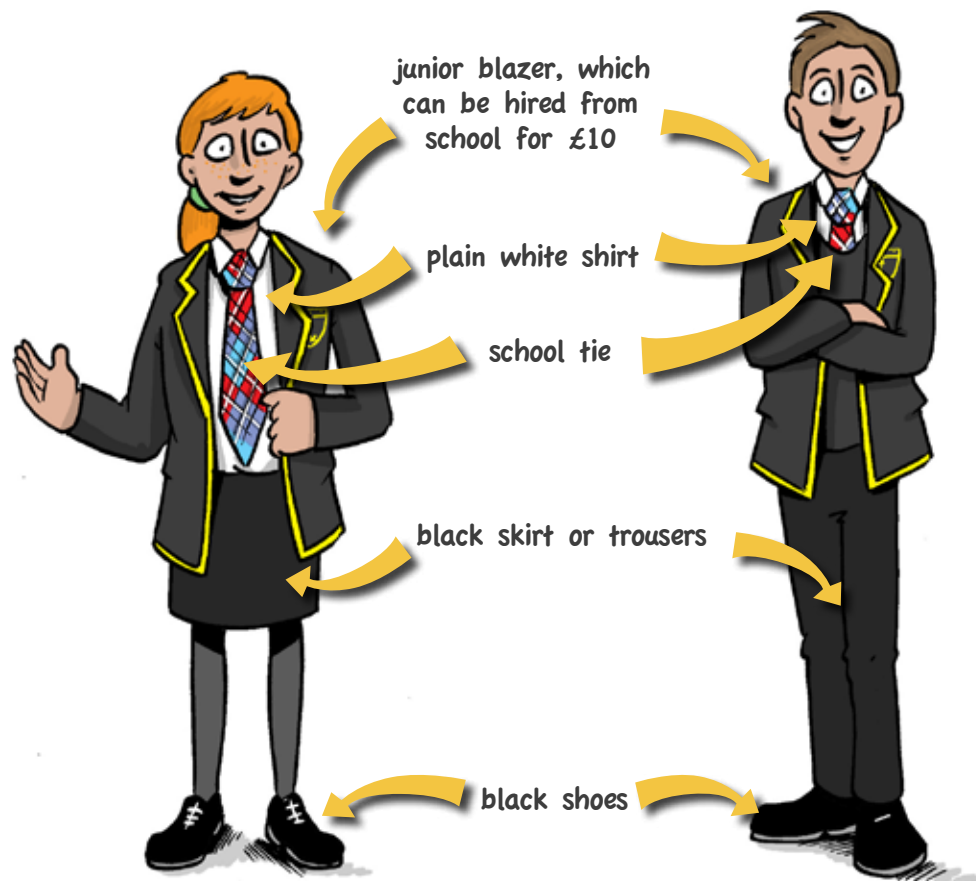
"It's easy to make new mates and the teachers help you to do that." Kaitlyn

How should I prepare for my first day?

On your first day, make sure you are wearing the correct uniform, you have all the equipment you will need and you get to school on time.

We will give your parents/carers a full list of the uniform and equipment you will need. Please make sure you are wearing it correctly.

You can also wear a plain black V-neck jumper or cardigan which allows the school tie to be seen.



What equipment do I need to bring with me?



You will need pens, pencils, a rubber, a ruler, a calculator, a water bottle and a backpack to keep it all in. Always pack your bag the night before so you aren't in a rush and don't forget anything.

You will also need your PE kit if you have PE on the first day. The kit consists of a navy PE polo shirt, black shorts, plain track bottoms for outdoor lessons and non-mark-sole trainers.

What else do I need to think about?

Getting to school:

Check your route well before your first day so you know where to go and how long it will take. Check bus or train times as well. If you live more than two miles from school, you can apply for a free bus pass.

Food:

You can bring a packed lunch or use the canteen. We will give you a PIN number for the cashless catering system which you type into one of the top-up machines. Add your money, then you're good to go. Your parents/carers can add money to your account using their Parent Pay account. The canteen has a great range of delicious food that caters for every taste.

What does the school day look like?

Like all Inverclyde schools, Monday and Tuesday are longer days with a seven period day finishing at 3.45 p.m. Wednesday, Thursday and Friday are shorter days and finish at 2.55 p.m

Registration	8.50 a.m. – 9.00 a.m.	Lunch	12.35 p.m. – 1.15 p.m.
Period 1	9.00 a.m. – 9.50 a.m.	Period 5	1.15 p.m. – 2.05 p.m.
Period 2	9.50 a.m. – 10.40 a.m.	Period 6	2.05 p.m. – 2.55 p.m.
Interval	10.40 a.m. – 10.55 a.m.	Period 7	2.55 p.m. – 3.45 p.m. (Monday and Tuesday only)
Period 3	10.55 a.m. – 11.45 a.m.		
Period 4	11.45 a.m. – 12.35 p.m.		

What will I study?

You will study a wide range of subjects: Art and Design, Drama, Music, PE, Health and Wellbeing, English, Literacy, French, Spanish, Religious and Moral Education, Mathematics and Numeracy, Science, ICT including Admin, Computing and Business, Design Technology including Design and Manufacture and Graphics, Geography, History, Modern Studies, ICT and Technical.

You will move between classrooms for different subjects. During the first few days at school, you will be guided to and from classes and have a little extra time to move from one to the other.

So, don't worry about getting lost!



What about homework?

You can track your home learning using the 'Show My Homework' app. You will get reminders of home learning tasks in class, but the app will also give you a notification when a task is set and when it's due. Your parents/carers will also get a reminder.



How can I get more involved?

We have a 'Pupil Parliament' where pupils can help make decisions about how the school is run as well as getting involved with local community and global issues. The pupils also run pupil drop-in centres to listen to pupil concerns. They can present their ideas to the school's Head Teacher and Senior Leadership Team. You can get involved right from S1.

You also get involved with the local community, including fundraising and volunteering in our associated primaries, in care homes and in local nurseries. Have a look on our Twitter feed to see what we are doing. And if you can think of any organisations that need our help, let us know.

"It's certainly a change but the variety of classes and pupils is incredibly enjoyable, as are the many new experiences you can have here." Connor

What else can I do?

We also have a fantastic range of extracurricular activities, so why not try something!

Concert Band, Orchestra, Choir, Drama Club, Athletics, Football, Badminton, Basketball, Young Enterprise, Theatre Visits, Debating and Public Speaking, Volleyball, Writers' Circle, Rugby, Netball, Fitness Club, Art Club, LGBT, Jewellery Making Club, Lego Club, Yu-Gi-Oh!, Minecraft Club, Craft Club and Compassionate Inverclyde Club.



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