



WELCOME TO
PARKSTONE
GRAMMAR SCHOOL

COURAGE,
COMMITMENT,
COMPASSION



How should I get ready for my first day?

We are proud of our school and our brilliant staff and students. We expect our students to show how proud they are to be part of Parkstone Grammar School by wearing the correct uniform.

Here are a few simple rules for uniform that you should follow from your first day:



Parkstone navy blazer with badge

White blouse with revere collar

Parkstone tartan skirt – skirts should be worn at knee length – or Parkstone navy trousers

Parkstone navy V-neck jumper

White lab coat for science

Overall for art (or an old shirt)

Plain white, navy or black socks which should be ankle- or knee-length, or plain navy, black or neutral tights

Smart plain black or navy shoes



You will need the following PE kit (when it is on your timetable) in a PE bag:

- Parkstone navy PE shorts (for football and rugby)
- Parkstone navy skort (other sports activities)
- Parkstone navy training top
- Parkstone navy leggings
- Navy blue football or white ankle socks as appropriate
- Trainers with good support and grip, or studded footwear (depending on activity)
- You should also wear shin pads and a gum shield as appropriate



Equipment

You will need to bring the following items with you in a strong school bag:

- Pencil case
- Pen
- Pencil
- Ruler
- Sharpener
- Rubber
- Highlighter pens
- Coloured pencils
- Spare pen and pencil
- Scientific calculator
- PE kit when needed



We will give you your timetable when you join us.

It's a good idea to pack your school bag the night before so you don't forget anything.

Student Quote:
"Top tip: have a backup locker key!"

Please remember that if you bring a mobile phone to school, it must be kept switched off, either in your bag or locked in your locker.

What happens on my first day at Parkstone Grammar School?

We know that you will be excited about coming to Parkstone Grammar, but it is also completely normal to feel nervous about starting secondary school. We will do everything we can to help you to settle in and make new friends quickly.

Transition days

You will have the chance to visit us, get to know some of the friendly teachers and see the brilliant facilities on your transition day during the summer term. You will also get to take part in some taster lessons.

First day arrangements

In September, only your year group and Year 12 will be in on your first day. This will give you a chance to settle in and start to feel at home before the school gets busier. Most students travel to school by bus and will be dropped off in the school grounds, however, others walk, cycle or travel by car. If you cycle to school, we have racks where bikes can be kept safely – don't forget to bring a bike lock.



Settling in

You may be in a class with other students from your current school, but even if you aren't, you will quickly make new friends. There will be lots of ice-breaker activities to help everyone get to know each other.

Should you have any questions or need help with anything, your Tutor will be able to help, but you can also speak to the Head of Year and Pastoral Support Worker. The Receptionists are also very friendly so you can ask them too.

All our staff and older students know what the first day feels like, so they will do as much as possible to make you feel welcome and help you settle in.

Student Quote:

“Don't worry if you don't know anyone at first. Everyone is very welcoming and friendly and you will soon make friends.”



Art

FAQs and solutions to common worries

How big is the school? Will I get lost?

The school might feel very big at first as you won't be used to it but you will quickly find your way around with the map we give you. Everybody will offer to help if you ask.

Are teachers helpful and nice?

Your teachers all know what it's like to be in a new school. If you have any questions, just ask them. They will also help remind you about how the school works.

Will I be with my friends? Is it easy to make friends?

Everybody in Year 7 is new to Parkstone, so we mix you all up into different tutor groups. This gives you all the chance to make new friends as well as keeping your old friends in different tutor groups.

Is the canteen food nice?

The food is very tasty and very popular. The canteen is open before school, at break, and lunch. You can buy a snack, sit down for lunch or take away some items. Choices include pasta, jacket potatoes, a salad bar, roasts, burgers and desserts. There are always vegetarian/vegan options. You can also bring a packed lunch. You will use a special pre-paid system for school food and pay using your fingerprint! This means there is no need to bring cash to school every day.

Will the work be harder?

Your schoolwork will gradually get harder than at your current school, just as it would have done when you moved from Year 5 to Year 6.

What sports are played in PE?

These include netball, football, rounders, tennis, basketball, gymnastics and dance. There are sports teams and competitions. We also hold an amazing Gym and Dance competition.

Can we use our phones?

You're not allowed to use your phone during the school day. If you need to contact a parent during the day for an emergency, you should go to Reception.

Do we get a locker?

You will be given a locker near to your tutor room which you should use to keep your books/kit in. You will only access your locker before 8.25 a.m., at break or at lunch, so you will need to take your equipment for two lessons at a time.

Student Quote:

"The teachers are very helpful. You can ask them if you get stuck on anything."

What happens in a school day?

Every day has five lessons, plus break and lunchtime. Registration is at 8.25 a.m. and lessons start at 8.55 a.m. Each lesson lasts one hour.

This is an example of what your timetable might look like for one week:

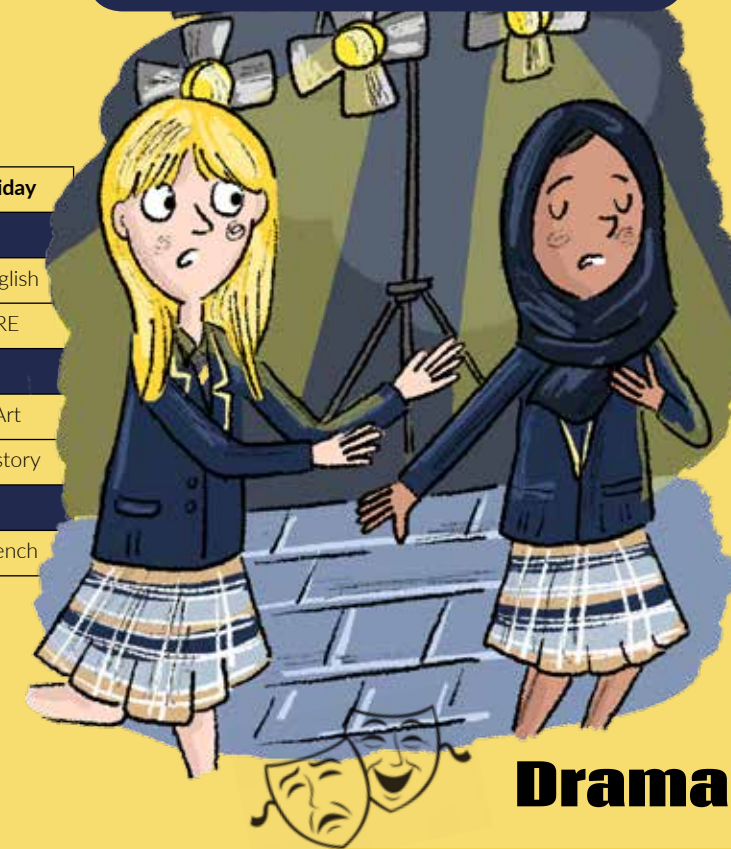
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8.25	REGISTRATION & TUTOR TIME				
8.55	Geography	French	Science	Technology	English
9.55	History	Science	PE	Technology	RE
10.55	BREAK				
11.15	Drama	Music	Languages	Science	Art
12.15	English	Maths	English	Maths	History
1.15	LUNCH				
2.15	PE	RE	Computing	Geography	French

Lessons will be in different rooms, but you will soon get used to finding your way around.

You will learn new subjects as well as build on what you have learnt at your old school.

Student Quote:

"The freedom and responsibility make me feel more trusted."



Drama

What is expected of me?

Houses

Everyone belongs to one of the six houses:



You can win House points by participating in competitions throughout the year, in a range of subjects. You will also be given achievement points for good work and being considerate to others. The House with the most points at the end of each term wins the House Shield. These are added up for the House Cup at the end of each year.

Do your best to participate and get involved as much as possible, for example, by being part of a team or taking on a position of responsibility such as tutor group delegate, House Captain, or Sports or Charity Rep.



Expectations

Always aim to do your best. You will be expected to take on more responsibility for yourself, and we will all work with you to help you reach your full potential.

Homework

You will be given homework each day. It should take, on average, 45 minutes to complete. Make sure you record all your homework in your planner so you can keep track of deadlines. During the first half term, we will only set homework in English, Maths and Science. From November onwards, homework will be set in all subjects.

Student Quote:
“Being a Parkstone student is awesome. Don’t doubt yourself.”



What extra-curricular activities can I take part in?

At Parkstone, we want to widen your horizons and offer you experiences that will enhance your learning. As part of this, we offer many trips and visits to support the curriculum content.

Clubs

There really is something for everyone and all students are encouraged to take part in at least one of the over 60 different clubs you can get involved in, such as:

SPORTS CLUBS, GARDENING/ECO,
DUNGEONS & DRAGONS, CHESS CLUB,
CYBER CLUB, ORCHESTRA, STRINGS,
ROCK CHOIR, DRAMA, SCIENCE

There is an activities fair in September where you will be able to find out more about all the clubs and sign up for any you are interested in.



Trips

Subjects arrange various trips throughout the year to support the curriculum content.

During Activities Week at the end of the school year, all students get the opportunity to take part in some exciting trips and activities including:

MONKEY WORLD, GO APE, CORFE CASTLE, INDOOR CLIMBING AND WATER SPORTS.

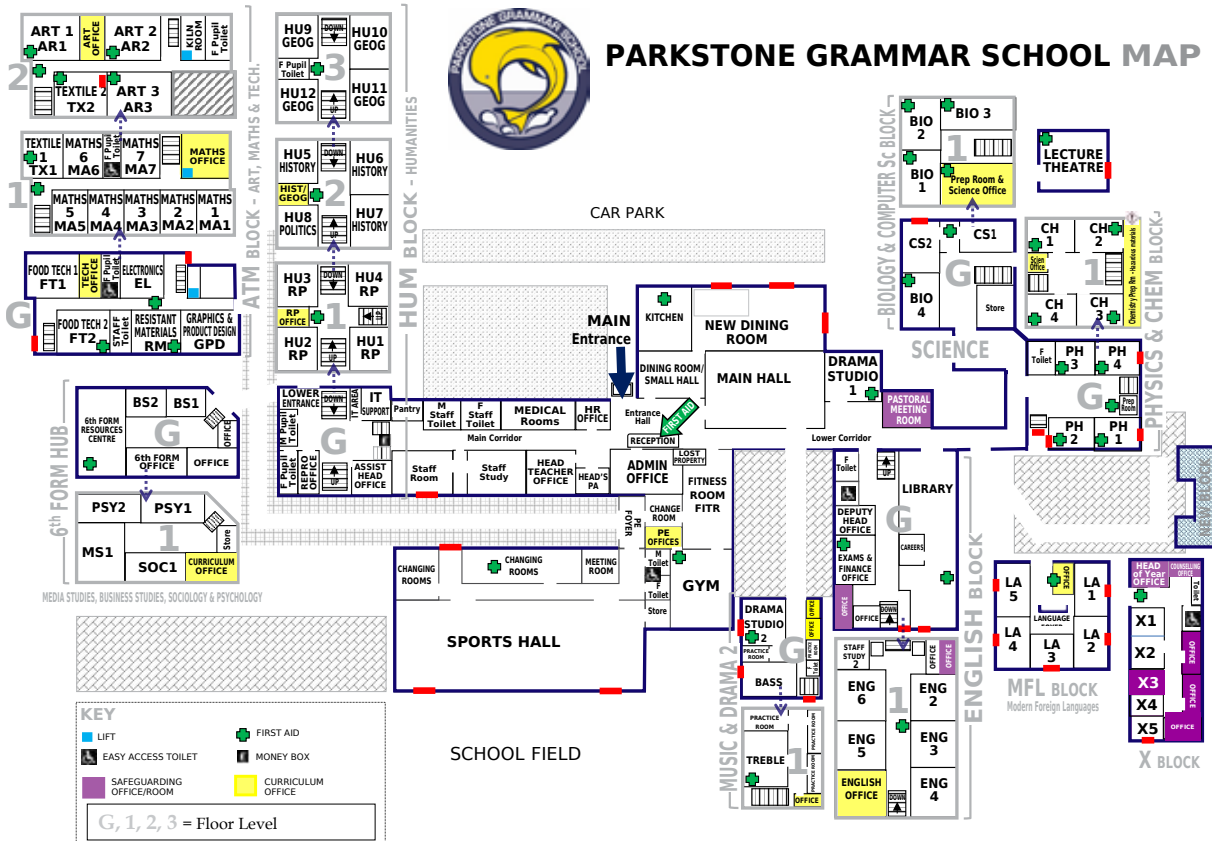
Joining a club or going on a trip are brilliant ways to make new friends, find a new interest or learn a new skill, so why not have a go and try something new!

Student Quote:

“There are so many clubs and societies, and the sports are great.”



PARKSTONE GRAMMAR SCHOOL MAP



Thrive and succeed
at Parkstone Grammar School

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PARKSTONE
GRAMMAR SCHOOL

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