



The  
**Bulmershe  
School**  
INSPIRING POTENTIAL,  
ACHIEVING TOGETHER

Dear Parents/Carers,

In preparation for your child starting at The Bulmershe School, we have compiled an FAQ below. We know the transition from primary to secondary can be difficult for parents as well as students with a lot of information and making the change going from picking up at the school gates of a familiar primary school to the independence of secondary school. We want to make the transition as smooth as possible and are here to help so please do contact the school with any concerns or worries that you may have. Hopefully this sheet below will answer some queries you may already have.

#### FAQs for new Year 7:

**First Day:** Year 7 spent much of their first morning in their form rooms with their tutors where they went through their timetables, discussed the schools procedures on attendance and behaviour, and prepared their tutor board. They also received their timetable, a map of the school and were taken on a tour of the school with their form tutor.

**Planners:** Your child will have been issued a planner to record homework and important information. Please ensure you check this regularly and sign weekly.

**Timetables:** Now students have a copy of their timetable, it will be useful for you to go through this with them. It details their lessons, teachers and the rooms.

**Getting around school:** Many students worry about getting lost and then arriving late for lessons. Teachers understand this and will expect it for the first couple of weeks while students familiarise themselves with the school site. Students have been given maps and a tour of the school on their first day to help them find their way around.

**Pick up and drop off:** Students can enter the school via either Chequers Way Gate (until 8:25am) or the main gate by reception (until 8:45am). They are expected in school by 8:25am, if they are later than this, they are considered late and may receive detention slip if they do not have a valid reason. If dropping off or picking up students by car, please use the Woodlands Avenue entrance. Please collect your child from main reception. They will be able to wait in reception for the first two weeks of term.

**Lockers:** keys will be issued via their form tutors within the next two weeks.

**sQuid/canteen:** Any students who have not had their fingerprint taken will have had the opportunity to do this on the first day of term in student reception. sQuid accounts can be topped up online or with cash via student reception. Please ensure all money is in a clearly labelled envelope with your child's name and form group. Cash will be accepted in the canteen at lunch time



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only for the first two weeks of term to allow for any set-up issues to be resolved. Please contact the finance office with any sQuid queries: [finance@bulmershe.wokingham.sch.uk](mailto:finance@bulmershe.wokingham.sch.uk)

**Lunchtimes:** Year 7 will go to lunch 30 minutes early for the first two weeks of term while they get to familiarise themselves with the process. This time will gradually be reduced until they join the rest of the school at lunchtime.

**Homework:** For the first three days we want students to focus on familiarising themselves with their surroundings and the routines at secondary school, therefore we will only start setting homework in the week beginning 11th September. Further information on Boomerang, homework and Independent Learning Challenges (ILCs) will be sent over the next few weeks.

**Further queries or concerns:** In the first instance, please email your child's form tutor with any questions, concerns or queries. Their email address can be found on the school's website. Go to 'Students' tab and then click on Year 7 Information where you will also find copies of any letters sent home and other important information.

**Year 7 clinic:** To help with the transition from primary to secondary, we will be running a Year 7 clinic in the first few weeks of term to answer any questions. These will run from 3:00-3:15pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays in student reception. It will be run as a drop so please come in via main reception and speak to myself or one of the other members of the Key Stage Three team. We will endeavour to answer any questions you may have.

**Meet the Tutor Evening:** This will take place on 19<sup>th</sup> October and will be your chance to meet with your child's tutor and discuss any issues arising in the half term.

We are confident your child will settle in to The Bulmershe School quickly and smoothly but please contact your child's tutor in the first instance if you have any queries. We look forward to working with you to ensure your child's success at secondary school.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Tracy Edwards

**ACTING ASSISTANT HEADTEACHER i/c KS3**