



Transition: Frequently Asked Questions

If you have any further queries that are not answered in this FAQ document, please email office@mardenhigh.net.

Q: Where do Year 7 students go on their first day of school?

A: On their first day of Year 7, students will be directed by Marden High School staff from their arrival at the school gate. On their first day they will be given a map of the school to help them find their way to their classrooms.

Q: What will my child study as part of the Year 7 curriculum?

A: At Marden High School we aim to deliver a rich and varied curriculum for all students. Information on what to expect in Year 7 can be found here: <https://www.mardenhigh.net/year-7/>

An introduction to each subject area can also be found at the bottom of the [Year 7 page](#).

Q: Will my child be able to take part in any clubs or extracurricular activities?

A: All students will be encouraged and supported to take part in a wealth of extracurricular opportunities, including sport, music and the performing arts, creative activities, cultural visits, outdoor learning experiences, work experience and opportunities to develop leadership skills. There are extra-curricular clubs running both after and before school, as well as during lunchtime. More information will be available in September, but for now check out what we currently do [HERE](#).

Q: How will my child be supported through transition?

A: Starting secondary school offers many exciting opportunities for children and their families. At Marden High School, we are committed to ensuring that our new students feel comfortable and happy about such a big change in their lives. The smooth transition that we offer for our new intake is achieved through positive, frequent communication between students, staff, parents/carers and governors.

Q: What support is available for students completing their homework?

A: Homework Club is available for all students to attend as a drop in every day after school in the LRC. Homework Club staff are available to support students with homework, and students are able to use the IT facilities available to complete their homework.

Q: I've heard a lot of homework is online through 'Google Classroom'. How do I use this?

A: We have created a guide to help support student's use of Google Classroom here: <https://www.mardenhigh.net/blended-learning-2/>

Q: How are my child's subject classes decided?

A: Students in Y7 will be set by their SATS results for some subjects and mixed for others.

Q: What time does the school open and close?

A: Students are able to enter the school building from 8.30am. The LRC is also open until 4.30pm after school each evening.

Q: How will I be updated on my child's progress throughout the year?

A:We send out reports about student progress once every term, as well as holding a 'settling in evening' for Y7 parents in the Autumn Term, and a parents' evening in the Summer Term. Dates of these will be confirmed in September.

Q: What should I do if my child is absent from school?

A: Students should arrive at school before 8.45am to enable a prompt start to the day. If your child is going to be absent, please contact the Student Absence Line before 9.30am by telephoning 0191 296 2771 or texting 08449 842674.

Q: How will you contact me?

A: Usually by telephone, text message or by giving a letter/report to your child. So that we are able to contact you, please ensure we have an up to date address and telephone number, and advise us as soon as possible if you change any of your contact details. We also update the school website frequently with news and important information.

Q: Who do I contact if I have a problem?

A: Contact the school via the usual phone number 0191 269 2771 and explain the issue so that you can be directed to the correct member of staff to help you.

Q: What are the school day timings?

A: School day timings can be found here: [School Day Timings](#)

Q: Where can I find the school term dates?

A: You can find out our term dates by clicking on this link: [School term dates | North Tyneside Council](#)

Other useful dates, such as inset days, and information can be found on our parent calendar: [Parent Calendar | Marden High School](#)

Q: Where can I get support if I have a query about paying for school lunches?

A: We operate a cashless system for lunches in school. Students are given a fob to use in our food outlets. Further information is shared with parents and carers as part of the transition process regarding the fobs and their use.

Q: Can my child bring a packed lunch to school?

A: Yes, students can bring their own lunch into school.

Q: Will my child be in the same tutor group as their friends?

A: We have students joining us from a large number of different primary schools, and we aim to keep students with at least one of the other students from primary school in their form class. Students will be allocated to a number of different groups throughout the day and may be with a different group of students in lessons. It is likely, therefore, that students from the same primary school will be with other students they know at some point during the day.

Q: My child has additional needs. What extra help will they get?

A: Inclusion is a core value at Marden High School and we have very high expectations of all our students, whatever their additional needs. Our SENDCO, Mrs B Reece, will make contact with the SENDCO of your child's primary school to make sure that we understand your child's individual needs and to plan for any support that needs to be put in place to allow your child to access a full and varied curriculum. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mrs Reece at b.reece@mardenhigh.net.

Q: What are the school uniform requirements and where can I purchase school uniforms?

A: You can find a list of our school uniform at this link, as well as information on how to purchase uniform: [Our Uniform | Marden High School](#)

Q: What equipment are students encouraged to bring to school?

A: All students need a bag to carry books and their equipment. These must be brought to school every day, along with a reading book and pencil case. The LRC (Learning Resource Centre) is open before school and at break and lunch and sells essential stationery. All students are able to purchase a locker for keeping larger items, such as lunch or a PE kit. A £30 payment for the locker is needed and students keep their locker for 5 years.

Q: Can my child bring electronic devices such as laptops, phones or iPads into school?

A: We ask that all electronic devices are switched off between 08:45 and 15:15, with the exception that students may need to use their mobile phones in lessons for learning activities. We have Chromebooks and computers available at school for students to use to support their learning.

Q: What is ParentPay and what is it used for?

A: ParentPay is our online payment system. We use this as a way for parents to pay for school trips and events, such as the school prom. You will be given ParentPay login details within the first few weeks of your child starting at Marden High School.

Q: Do you have a PTA? How can I get involved?

A: We have an active PTA at Marden High School. You can find out more about what they do and how to get involved at this link: [PTA | Marden High School](#).