

Frequently Asked Questions – Year 7 2026

What time does school start and finish?

Please refer to the school day timetable link on the website.

Students are allowed in the school building from 7.45am and the school dining room is open serving breakfast from 8am.

When will I find out my child's form group

All Form and House information will be sent home at the beginning of July.

What time do the Year 7 students have lunch?

At the beginning of the year, the Year 7s will be on first sitting meaning they can go for early lunch at approximately 12.30pm. Students are welcome to bring a packed lunch. If buying food from the canteens, please ensure your child has enough money on their MCAS account. Whilst we would never let a child go hungry, the canteen cannot authorise food purchases if the account would go into a negative. After lunch they can play out in their designated playground, take part in extracurricular clubs or make use of our quieter areas such as Matrix.

Are the students taught in sets for any subjects?

For Year 7 most subjects are taught in mixed ability classes, with the exception of English. Languages and PE are taught in set groups following assessments later in the year.

Are they taught as a form?

Year 7 are taught in form for some lessons.

Who should my child go to if they have an issue?

They should go to their form tutor, their Head of Year or Mrs Higgs if it is SEN related.

Who should I go to if I have a query?

In the first instance, it is best to contact the Year 7 Head of Year or Mrs Geddis (Head of Pastoral Care) by email HOY@chhs.org.uk or by calling the main school number: 0161 485 7201. If it is an SEN issue, please contact Mrs Higgs by email sendleads@chhs.org.uk or telephone, using the main school number. If necessary, we can then arrange to meet at a mutually beneficial time or we can direct you to the correct member of staff to help deal with your query.

What should I do if my child is anxious about starting high school?

Please try to reassure your child that everyone will feel anxious and it is normal when starting a new school and getting used to a new environment. Many students will be joining us not knowing anyone. They will soon get used to high school and settled in. If they are anxious and nervous about social times they can make use of our quieter areas such as Matrix.

What extra-curricular clubs can my child do?

Clubs will be announced during the first few weeks of the term. These will be announced in class by teachers, through form time, booklets and within department noticeboards.

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Can my child have time off during term time?

We will support your child's time off if they are competing in a competition with extra-curricular clubs or taking examinations, for example in music. We will also support unavoidable medical appointments. We will not usually support or authorise holidays during term time – please refer to our attendance policy for further details.

What language will my child learn?

Year 7 are taught the following one of the following languages: French, Spanish or German. Should they desire, they will have the option to learn a second language in Key Stage 4. Details of which language your child will be study will follow at the beginning of July.

When can my child use their mobile phone?

Mobiles are NOT allowed to be used in school. However, we appreciate many students use these to contact home if required on their way to or way home from school. If your child needs to contact home during the school day, they should see their Head of Year or Student Reception.

How short can my child have their hair cut?

We do not allow full or excessively shaved heads. If your child attends school with excessively short hair they will be taught in withdrawn study. For further information please refer to our uniform policy: [CHHS Uniform Policy](#)

What shoes can my child wear?

At CHHS we do allow students to wear ALL black and ALL leather Converse, Superstars or similar versions. Students are also able to wear other school shoes including Doc Martin shoes (but not boots). Students are not allowed to wear any other kind of trainer for school. For further information please refer to our uniform policy: [CHHS Uniform Policy](#)

Where can I find bus information?

Bus information can be found by clicking on this link: [Travel to and from school](#)

Can my child cycle to school?

We encourage students to cycle to school and there is a secure bike storage on site. All student must wear a cycling helmet when riding his or her bike.

What if my child becomes unwell during the school day?

We have a dedicated First Aider (Mrs Harvey) on premises at all times and students should report to First Aid if they feel unwell. We will assess your child and contact you if required. Students should not contact home before seeking first aid in school.

What if my child is not able to attend school due to illness?

Please contact school at your earliest convenience via the MyChildatSchool app or text 07860 054396 and select the absence option to report their illness.

Finally, I wish you a very happy summer I hope the sun keeps shining! I look forward to seeing all our new Year 7 students in September - further details to follow.