

Most Frequently Asked Questions by New Students

What happens if I get lost?

If you get lost – **firstly try not to panic**, you will not get into trouble, we know that you are in a much bigger school and that you need time to get used to finding the different rooms.

- You can go to the office on either site and a member of staff will help you.
- There will be various members of staff around the site – who can help you.
- You can look at your map in your planner for guidance.

How long will I be allowed to walk between sites?

- You are allowed about 5 minutes to walk between top and bottom site – which is plenty of time.
- Your teacher's will allow you a couple of minutes extra during the first week.
- If you have a bus to catch your teacher's will let you out a few minutes earlier at the end of the day for the first week as well.

What happens if I get bullied?

- Bullying at Holyrood Academy is very rare.
- If however you should find yourself in a situation where you feel you are being bullied we take this very seriously. Please make sure that you tell somebody – your tutor, your Head of Year or a member of staff that you get to know and trust.
- We do not tolerate bullying.

How will I remember if it is Week A or Week B?

- When you start at the Academy in September your tutor will give you your planner. You will be able to go through your planner and write on each week whether it is A or B.
- The new year always starts on a Week A but if we break up for half term or the end of a term - should we finish on a Wk B we will start again on a Wk A and vice-versa.
- Get in the habit of looking at your planner/timetable every evening and pack your bag for the next day. We don't have lockers so you will only want to be carrying what you need for that day.

Where will I eat my lunch?

- You may eat your lunch in the upper or lower site main halls.
- There are various tables around the site that you may use if the weather is good or you can sit on the fields.
- If the weather is bad a bell will ring for wet lunch or break time and you may go into your tutor rooms but there is no eating in your tutor rooms.

How does the cashless catering system work?

- Full details on how the system works has already been sent home to your parents and can be found on our Holyrood website.
- You may only spend up to £3.50 on food and drink per day so you may need to bring an extra snack for break time if necessary.
- Please be aware if you pay money into the machine opposite the learning centre – it does not give out change, the money will stay in your account until you spend it.

What clubs are available and when are they?

- There are many lunchtime and after school clubs. Your tutor will give you a list of the clubs available.
- If you have an interest, don't be shy, you will meet lots of like-minded pupils and make new friends.

What if I don't understand my homework?

- If you don't understand your homework, don't just ignore it in the hope it will go away – IT WON'T. Tell your subject teacher or your tutor straight away and ask them to explain it again. We are here to help you so if you don't understand keep asking.
- You could also go to homework club, providing your parents know and you can get home. This is in the Learning Centre after school as follows:
Monday-Thursday: 3.10pm – 4.20pm
- There will be members of staff who can help with your homework, you can also use the computers and the reference books.
- When your teacher gives you your homework – remember to write it in your planner and try to complete it the same day

What are Technology lessons?

- The technology lessons consist of: Food Technology, Electronics, Textiles and Resistant Materials.
- During Years 7 and 8 you will get the chance to try all of the above.

What will we do in PE?

- Each half term you will do two different sporting activities e.g. Athletics and Tennis
- Remember to put your name in your PE kit and the rest of your uniform, so that it can be easily identified should you misplace it.
- Lost property can be found in the First Aid Centre in F Block.

What drinks can I bring to Holyrood?

- The ideal drink to bring is water – you will probably drink quite a lot during the day due to the extra amount of walking that you will do.
- Fruit juice and squash is also acceptable.
- **No** coke or fizzy drinks please
- There is a water fountain in **C Block courtyard** on upper site and one at lower site **outside of DM1.**

The First Aid Centre

- If you need a plaster or an icepack you can go to reception at upper site or if you are at lower site you can go to the lower site office which you can find by going up L Block stairs. If it is more serious you may be sent to the First Aid Centre on upper site from these receptions.
- If you need to go home due to illness, the First Aid Centre Assistant will call your parents/carers and they will meet you in reception.
- You must sign out at either upper or lower site reception if you have to leave the school at anytime during school hours.

You need to go to the toilet during the lesson?

- Ask your teacher – but do try and go at break time and lunchtime.

What if I don't understand the work in the lesson?

- Please don't worry that the work will be too hard for you – it will be set at your level.
- If however you do feel that you are struggling please make sure that you speak to your subject teacher/tutor/Head of Year.
- If you don't understand the work at anytime – try not to drift off, really try and concentrate and ask for help if you need it – you will understand the work if you persevere.

Remember we want you to feel safe, secure and happy during your time at Holyrood Academy so if anything is bothering you at anytime please talk to a member of staff. Hand your homework in on time and always try your best.

Try and remember:

Blocks A,B,C,D,E,F,G are on upper site

Blocks L,M,S and DM are on lower site