



FOWEY RIVER ACADEMY

**YEAR 6 PARENTS'
TRANSITION
INFORMATION BOOKLET
2023**

Headteacher's Welcome

Welcome from the Headteacher, Mr Eddy



We are pleased to have you join our academy community. As always, moving to secondary school is a big step and your child and you will experience a range of emotions when considering this prospect.

Most children will be ready for the challenge and responsibility of growing up; experiencing new lessons and opportunities. However, a few will have worries and anxieties about what the move will hold for them and Tuesday's events are to help them with this.

Moving up into secondary school is certainly an exciting time and we have put together a broad selection of essential information in this booklet to help support your child.

Key People you need to know

We are lucky to have a fabulous team working with Year 7 next year. You will get a chance to meet them on Tuesday. Miss Hick, Deputy Headteacher will be working to support you along with Mr Waters, your Head of Year and Ms Lefley, your Care, Guidance and Support Manager.

Crucial to school life for all our students is the role played by the tutors. These teachers are the first port of call for parents and students alike.

You will find the names and the email address of the tutors below.

Head of Year 7 - Mr Waters mwaters@fracademy.org

YEAR 7	TUTOR	EMAIL
Fire	Mr Yates	myates@fracademy.org
Earth	Mr Horton	shorton@fracademy.org
Water	Miss Gubbin	agubbin@fracademy.org
Air	Ms Davies	ldavies@fracademy.org
Ice	Mrs Miller	omiller@fracademy.org

Key People you need to know...



Mark Waters
Head of Year 7



Simon Horton
Year 7 Earth
Tutor



Laura Davies
Year 7 Air
Tutor



Abi Gubbin
Year 7 Water
Tutor



Oli Miller
Year 7 Ice
Tutor



Matt Yates
Year 7 Fire
Tutor



Katie Lefley
CGS Manager



The School Day

You will find the timings of the school day below.

We are extremely excited to be able to offer students our enrichment programme. On a Wednesday afternoon we will be running a range of activities including sport, arts, trips and academic experiences for students to choose from. Buses will be taking students home afterwards as usual and we are looking to make up for those recent years when we could not take part in all the fantastic events which make learning fun and the world we live in a fantastic place to explore!

Students will also be able to attend a range of activities offered on the Thursday night if they so wish.

Learn more about this on Tuesday evening!

Times	Monday, Tuesday & Friday	Times	Wednesday & Thursday
8.40 - 9.00	Tutor	8.40 - 9.00	Tutor
9.00 - 10.00	Lesson 1	9.00 - 10.00	Lesson 1
10.05 - 11.05	Lesson 2	10.05 - 11.05	Lesson 2
11.05 - 11.35	Lunch	11.05 - 11.35	Lunch
11.35 - 12.35	Lesson 3	11.35 - 12.35	Lesson 3
12.40 - 1.40	Lesson 4	12.40 - 1.40	Lesson 4
1.40 - 2.10	Lunch	1.40 - 2.10	Lunch
2.10 - 3.10	Lesson 5	2.10 - 3.10	Lesson 5
		3.10 - 4.10	Lesson 6 Enrichment



Transport

There are several school buses operated by Roselyn Coaches which serve the school.

The Passenger Transport Unit at County will assign students to school buses. Bus passes will be sent out by them during the summer holidays. It is not possible to obtain a second bus pass and the bus pass will be to and from the student's primary address. Students may only take the bus route identified on the bus pass. Passes will also be provided for the Polruan and Bodinnick ferry crossings when there is an entitlement. It is important that your child carries their pass at all times and shows it when it is asked for by the driver or a teacher. This is important as random spot-checks are carried out by the County.

For those who live outside the catchment area, there is no entitlement to a bus pass. It is your responsibility to get your child to and from school. Concessionary bus passes may be available but they are not normally considered until September and there is a cost to these. This has to be arranged with the Passenger Transport Unit at Cornwall Council.

The Passenger Transport Unit at Cornwall Council can be contacted on 0300 1234222.

We do operate a small, payable bus service which runs from Bodmin and picks up students from designated stops.

Should you be interested in this service, please contact:

Ms Higman, our Finance and Operations Manager at shigman@fracademy.org



ParentMail and Edulink

Parentmail is a system used at Fowey River Academy which helps improve communications between schools and parents. Your account can be accessed from your computer or by using the free mobile app.

ParentMail is an email and text messaging system which is personalised to you, which makes it quick and easy for the academy to send communication, messages and letters to parents.



Edulink will keep you up - to - date with how your child is performing in school on a lesson - by - lesson basis. You will be able to see when they gain a merit and hopefully no behaviour points. It will also keep you informed about attendance and punctuality.



Firefly

Firefly is our online learning platform. You will be given access to this invaluable tool to allow you to follow and support your child’s learning. Details and registration will be sent to you when your child joins us in September.

Please ensure we have an up-to-date e-mail address and your mobile telephone number to ensure we can communicate with you effectively.

Subjects	Subjects	
Back to school	Art	English
GCSE Revision Final Push	Business Studies	Enrichment
Firefly Help	Careers	Finance
Staff	Catering	French
Room Bookings	Child Development	General Election
GCSE Pod	Citizenship	Geography
Community	Core PE	German
Student Information	DofE	History
Accessit Library	Drama	IT - Yr 10 & Yr 11
View all 12 sections		
	Learning2Learn/IT	Photography
	Life Skills	POWER
	Maths	PSHE/RSE
	Media Studies	RE
	Music	Revision
	Outdoor Education	Science
	PE	Spanish
	PE (GCSE)	St Austell College
	PE (OCR)	STEM
	See all 38 pages in this section	





Important Information

The first day back

Knowing what will happen in September often helps both new students and parents.

Q What date does school start?

A Tuesday 5th September 2023.

Q What time do students arrive?

A Before 8.40am.

Q Where do students go?

A On arrival students will be directed to the assembly venues.

Q When will students get their timetable?

A On the first day.

Q What do they bring?

A Students should bring a school bag with all their equipment including sportswear.

Free School Meals

Cornwall Council believes that when children eat better, they achieve better. Their Free School Meals Team are aiming to go paperless in the near future. As such, they would like all new claimants to apply for Free School Meals online using the Cornwall Council website.

Applying online is not only simpler but a quicker route for parents to apply. Paper applications can take up to 10 working days to process, whereas online applications will be processed within 3 working days (normally the same day if submitted before 12 noon).

Please apply by using this link:

<https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/schools-and-education/schools-and-colleges/school-meals>



Cashless Catering System

At FRA we use a system called ParentMail and this is our preferred method for parents/ carers to pay for school visits/trips, make some purchases and also to pay money into the Cashless Catering System. This system is personalised to you and you will have your own login and account details. It gives you the flexibility to make online payments whenever and wherever you like, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, safe in the knowledge that the technology used is of the highest internet security standard. It means students do not have to carry around amounts of cash. Within your welcome pack is a letter with your own unique username and password.



To register for ParentMail please visit <https://pmx.parentmail.co.uk/> and log on using the details provided in the pack.

Be prepared

Moving to secondary school is a big step and your child and you will experience a range of emotions when considering this prospect. Most children will be ready for the challenge and responsibility of growing up; experiencing new lessons and opportunities. However, a few will have worries and anxieties about what the move will hold for them. With this in mind, we have put together a simple check-list about what can be done on a practical level through the summer break to lessen anxieties and so that uncertainties become familiar and manageable:



- Help your child to gather together the necessary equipment (please see our list of essentials below).
- Students will be aware that they will need to manage their time to ensure homework is done. Organisation is the key to successful study habits – have you given thought to where your child will study at home and where they will store their things for school?
- Rehearsing travel routes and plans will alleviate many worries. See our section on bus routes and expectations. Alternatively, walk the route to school with your child, timing how long it will take and checking which is the safest route to take, avoiding areas where the pavement does not exist.
- Make sure you and your child are aware of what will happen on the first day. Run through this together a number of times, so that your child will know the expectations.
- Students will need the following essential equipment for lessons each day:



- **A strong waterproof schoolbag**
- **A scientific calculator**
- **A pencil case containing the following essentials:**
 - Pens and pencils
 - Coloured pencils
 - Pencil sharpener
 - Rubber
 - Ruler
 - Compass
 - Protractor
 - Glue stick
 - Paper
 - Scissors

Desirable items might also include a pocket dictionary and thesaurus, but these are available to use in the school, as well as through the iPad.



iPads
Students will be issued with a personal iPad at the beginning of the Autumn term.

Uniform

We are very proud of our FRA uniform and we use a Cornish company to supply the branded articles.

Academy BLAZERS and TIES along with Sportswear are purchased from Cornwall Screen Print & Embroidery which has premises in Holmbush amongst other local outlets.

They can be contacted at: info@cornwallscreenprint.co.uk or www.cornwallscreenprint.co.uk 01726 68689

Blazers cost between £38.00 and £44.60 (depending on size) and ties cost £7.50.

Sportswear

We have a wide range of sports kit available so that students can take part in PE lessons as well as MixX activities at lunch and after school. Having a range of kit will allow students to promote good hygiene.

Shorts/Leggings

Black shorts, a skirt or leggings need to be worn. Black base/thermal leggings may be worn under the shorts. If it is really cold students may bring in black tracksuit bottoms to wear for outside lessons.

Top

Students will need a PE t-shirt. They may choose to wear a black base/thermal layer underneath. When playing rugby, you will need a rugby top.

Jumper/Coat

Students will need warm layers as lessons and MixX activities often take place outside. We recommend students buy an FRA hoodie to wear for PE lessons and, if possible, the showerproof jacket. The showerproof jacket can also be worn over their blazer to and from school as well as at lunchtimes and in PE lessons.



We do have a uniform swap shop. Should you wish to see what is available, please contact your child's tutor.

Checklist for your FRA uniform

YES



- A watch.
- ONE ring.
- ONE earring in each ear, in the lobe only. It MUST be a simple stud or small sleeper.
- 'Medicare' bracelet, if required.
- Tailored, full length, black school trousers or 'Bermuda shorts'.
- Tailored and pleated black school skirt that has a hemline no more than 100mm above the knee.
- Black leather belt.
- Black school shoes – leather or leather effect.
- Warm hats and scarves may be worn outside in social areas.
- Transparent nail varnish.
- Make-up that is subtle is allowed as long as it is 'natural'.
- Black V-necked jumper or tank top may be worn during cold weather. These must only be worn UNDER the blazer.
- Simple black hair bands that are specifically for keeping hair back.
- Sensible coat for warmth and to keep dry. This can be worn on the way to school and outside in social areas but not inside school.
- Clipper cuts, but nothing below a grade 2.
- Top button done up.
- Short black socks or black tights .



NO



- No additional jewellery.
- No dangling earrings, big studs, fashion earrings, flesh tunnels/stretchers.
- No facial or tongue piercings.
- No bracelets.
- No jeans/chino-style trousers, tight or "skinny" trousers.
- No jeggings or leggings.
- No tight or short skirts i.e. shorter than the minimum length stated.
- No fashion belts, including anything patterned or branded, no belt that is coloured.
- No trainers, skate shoes, canvas shoes, fashion shoes, no boots of any type, no shoes with heels or shoes with industrial or steel toecaps. No suede or suede-effect shoes.
- No hats or scarves allowed inside the building at any time.
- No coloured nail varnish.
- No make-up that is brightly coloured, can be seen from a distance or is glittery is unacceptable. There must not be any heavy eye-liner or mascara worn. No fake tan.
- No jumpers other than V-necked ones may be worn, nor can cardigans. No jumper can be worn in place of a blazer.
- No hair decorations that are coloured, no fashion accessories, braids or coloured extensions are allowed. No accessories that serve no real purpose are allowed.
- No fashion coats that are not useful to keep warm and dry. No hoodies– even to and from school.
- No unnatural hair colour. This means that you may not use dye to change your hair colour to make an obvious fashion statement. No "Tram Lines" or "Rats' Tails" etc.
- No shirts/blouses without top buttons. Top buttons must not be undone.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q What do I do if my child will be absent from school?

A If the absence is due to illness, we ask that you phone the academy before 9am each day of absence. You can also report the absence via the Edulink app. When your child returns to school we require that they bring with them a note to cover the dates of absence.

If the absence is due to an appointment, please ensure that your child has a note, either when they arrive late due to the appointment or with them if they need to leave the academy site during the day. In either case they will need to go via reception to be signed in or out as appropriate. However, our expectation is that, wherever possible, appointments will be made outside of school hours. If you are aware of an appointment in advance, could we also request you let the school know as soon as possible?

If the absence is going to be due to a holiday then a holiday request form must be picked up by your child from reception, completed and returned to the Attendance Officer at least 10 days prior to the proposed holiday. This form can also be downloaded from the academy website. Senior staff will look at your child's attendance and potential clashes between the proposed absence and events such as exams and assessments and decide whether the absence can be authorised. You will receive a letter confirming this decision. Please be aware that the Government policy is that schools should not authorise absence for holidays in term time unless there are exceptional circumstances.

Regardless of the circumstances of absence, all students will be expected to catch up on the work missed during any absence.

Q What happens if I forget to phone the school when my child is absent?

A We have an attendance policy, in-line with Government expectations, which means that we will call you each day of your child's absence if you have not already informed us. This ensures that both the academy and you, as parents or carers, are aware of where your child is during the school day. It is therefore essential that we have up-to-date daytime telephone numbers and that you inform us immediately of any changes.



Q What happens if my child is well enough for school but not fit to take part in PE?

A Your child will be required to produce a note stating why they cannot participate in the lesson. However, this is closely monitored and it will be challenged if a pattern is emerging. Naturally the academy cannot authorise repeated or long-term withdrawal from these lessons without a clear and substantiated explanation.

Q What happens if my child loses anything?

A Any lost property which is found is held in the Reception. This sometimes takes a few days and so, if your child loses anything, we advise them to think back carefully to where they last saw the missing article – usually that is where they will find it.

Q How does my child get a bus pass?

A If your child is eligible for a bus pass, it will be issued directly by County Hall. Once your child has been given a place with us, they will send the bus pass directly to your house during the summer holidays. For enquiries, please call school transport at [Cornwall Council on 0300 1234222](tel:03001234222).



Frequently Asked Questions

Q What happens if my child loses their bus pass?

A Your child can obtain a temporary bus pass from Mrs. Higman in the Finance Office. However, this pass will only be valid for 5 days. You will need to apply for a new pass from Cornwall Council by calling school transport on the number given above.

Q If my child needs medication during the school day what do I do?

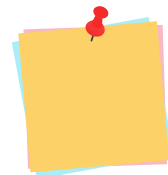
A Your child should bring the medicine, along with a signed consent form from you stating that you give permission for us to administer the medicine, to the First Aider. It will then be stored safely in the Student Services Office.

Q What are the rules on picking up students from school by car?

A If you need to pick up your child from school by car, please arrange to do so after 3.30pm. The bus bay is for our buses only between 3.00pm and 3.15pm. With over 600 students to dismiss from the school site, our bus duty staff would greatly appreciate cars do not obstruct the entrance, exit and turning points for our buses. We ask this on behalf of all our students to ensure their safety. Thank you.

Q What after-school clubs are available and how can we find out about them?

A We have lots of different clubs running during the year and during your child's first week they will be introduced to the MixX, our online list of the school activities available. These usually finish around 4.15pm. We also run a late bus if your child wishes to attend. If you would like more information, please contact your child's tutor. We will also talk to you about our Wednesday Enrich + provision when we meet on 4th July.



Q What happens if a student gets lost?

A It is normal for Year 6 students to worry about this but few do actually get lost! There will always be someone who can point students in the right direction and Reception or the Student Services office are always a good starting point.

Q What happens at lunchtime?

A Students can choose to eat in the canteen or to bring a packed lunch (no fizzy drinks, please). Packed lunches are eaten in designated spaces and we have created extra areas for students to eat outside.

Q How do I find out about important dates?

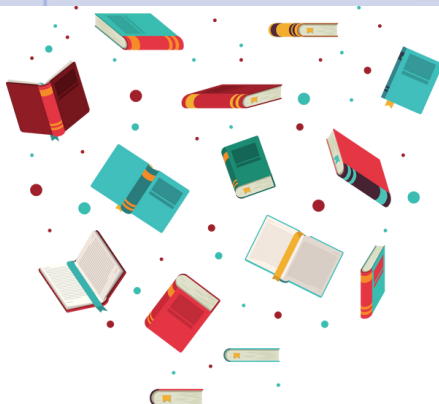
A The academy calendar will be posted on the FRA website and we will use ParentMail to update you on forthcoming events.



Fab Four @Fowey

At Fowey River Academy we deploy reciprocal reading strategies which you will practise every week during a tutor time. We use the Fab Four to help with this. Your tutor will read to the class and then ask questions to make sure you consider one or two of the below strategies each time.

<p><u>SUMMARISE</u></p> <p>This was about ... I learned ... The main idea is ... The key ideas are</p> <p>First Furthermore ... Finally</p> 	<p><u>QUESTION</u></p> <p>I wonder</p> <p>Who? Where? When? Why? What? How?</p> 
<p><u>PREDICT</u></p> <p>I think this will be about ... because I predict ... because ... I bet ... I will learn</p> 	<p><u>CLARIFY</u></p> <p>I didn't understand ... so I I don't understand ... but now I do ... because ...</p> 



Literacy Foci

As a school, we have a different focus within literacy every fortnight, as well as a different word of the fortnight. These skills and vocabulary are used across the whole curriculum and are covered in Literacy lessons to make sure that you fully understand how to use them in all your lessons. We will teach you how to decode words and how the etymology of a word can help you work out what other words might mean.

Reading at Fowey River Academy



At FRA, we love reading and have a lovely library with lots of choice. Mrs Coombe is our school Librarian and below she has a challenge for you.

Hello,

I am Mrs Coombes, the School Librarian.

I would like you to read through the holidays in order to keep up your reading skills.

Please read up to 5 books and write down their titles, authors and a brief description of the story on the sheet provided. Bring your sheets along to the library for a prize.

We can also discuss the books. Have a good holiday and I look forward to seeing you in the library in September.

Mrs Coombe



Contact Us



If you have any questions, you can email us at

enquiries@fracademy.org

You can also visit our website at <http://www.fracademy.org>

Alternatively, you can contact your child's tutor or Mr Waters,
Head of Year 7.

Telephone: **01726 833484**

Address: FoweyRiver Academy, Windmill, Fowey, Cornwall, PL23
1HE

