



Minsthorpe
Community College

Transition
Newsletter



Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Minsthorpe Community College is so much bigger than my primary school. What happens if I get lost?

A: This is a very common question and many of you will be worried about this. We will make sure you are familiar with all the different blocks around site by giving you a tour, you have a map in your planner which you can use and you can always ask staff and other students to help. If you get really stuck, you can head to student reception and the staff there will help you.

Q: What will happen if I lose my bag or equipment?

A: All lost property is sent to student reception so that would be a good place to check. You could also retrace your steps and check with your teachers. Your teachers will be able to lend you a pen or pencil for your lesson but you must try to be responsible for your own equipment.

Q: What is a P&A group and when do I find out which one I have?

A: P&A stands for progress and achievement. This is a group you will be placed into with up to 30 others. You will have a P&A mentor who will see you every morning for P&A time. They will check equipment, uniform and you will follow a P&A curriculum (reading, literacy, maths, SMSC activities etc). You have some of your lessons in your P&A group but most of them will be in mixed up groups. We will use the friendship group information from your primary schools to help us pick the P&A groups.

In a usual year we would let your primary schools know the P&A groups before the summer holidays but this will not happen this year. You may not be given a P&A group for September as we do not yet know what September looks like for schools across the country.

Please visit the Year 6 Transition page on our website for the most up to date transition information

<https://minsthorpe.cc/year-6-transition/>



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Q: How much homework will I get a week?

A: We call it Home Learning at Minsthorpe and it is a great opportunity for you to learn outside the classroom. Expect to be set Home Learning regularly, weekly or fortnightly in your core subjects, English, Maths and Science. You might be set Home Learning in your other subjects to prepare for a test or you might be set Home Learning as part of a project over a half term. We have Home Learning support sessions on after school to help you with completing your work.

Q: Can I bring a water bottle to school?

A: You can bring a water bottle to College but you will only be allowed to fill them up at snack breaks from the canteen. You will not have access to a sink in all your classrooms for drinking water like you do at primary school. You may not be able to bring a water bottle if we are still following social distancing and hygiene rules—but we will let you know before you start.

Q: How long are lunch and break times?

A: You have two snack breaks each day. Snack break 1, is a 15 minute break in the morning and snack break 2 is 30 minutes long in the afternoon.

Q: How long are the lessons?

A: The lessons are 50 minutes long. Sometimes you might have a double lesson, so that would be 100 minutes long (or 1 hour and 40 minutes).

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Q: What do you get a detention for and how long are they?

A: You do not want to get yourself a detention! You can get them for being late to College, being disruptive in lessons, missing Home Learning deadlines or not following the rules during the College day. The length of detention is dependent on what you have done. They range from 30 minutes to 1 1/2 hours.

Q: Is it easy to make friends at Minsthorpe?

A: It is really easy to make friends at Minsthorpe! There will be 300 brand new students starting all at the same time as you are. As I mentioned before, we do put you with a couple of your friends from Primary school when we create P&A groups, but you will be all mixed up for many of your lessons, so I'm sure you will make some new friends during your first few days. We also have lots of after college clubs so if there is something that interests you (and there will be!) you can meet new people by joining in.

Uniform Stockists

<p>Activ Apparel Reception C, The Acorn Centre, 51 High St. Grimethorpe. S72 7BB Website: www.activapparel.co.uk Email: sales@activapparel.co.uk Mobile: 07936 762428</p>	<p>Graham Briggs School Outfitters Contact number 07944 825 103 Email: info@briggsuniform.co.uk Web- site: www.briggsuniform.co.uk</p>
<p>Signature Retail Ltd 13 Rogergate Pontefract Phone: 01977 703657 Website: www.signatureretail.co.uk Email: signatureschool-wear@gmail.com</p>	<p>Smart Uniforms 20 The springs Wakefield WF1 1QA 01924 366633 info@smartuniforms.co.uk www.smartuniforms.co.uk</p>

Final Note!

We are in a very unusual situation at the moment. Your start to secondary school could be very different to what your older brothers/sisters/cousins may have experienced in the past. We are all working really hard at the moment to plan your start to Minsthorpe so it can be safe and positive for you all!

We look forward to meeting you all very soon!

Mrs Drysdale / Mrs Raistrick / Mrs Paul