**Friends**

**What if I don’t make friends on the first few days of school?**

**What should you do if no one likes you?**

One of the best ways to get to know people and make friends is to join one of the many clubs we have on offer. You will be in a tutor class as well as a practical class so will meet a large number of different pupils. There will also be a range of induction and ‘getting to know you’ activities, especially in PSE. You will also have a buddy from our S5/6 who you can talk to and ask for some advice. You can also speak to one of the many teachers or pupil support staff who can provide additional support or suggest some strategies.

**Map**

**How do I get a map of the whole school? Will we be getting a map so we know where we are going?** There is a map on the school website and on teams. There are also lots of signs around the school which point you in the right direction.

**What if I get lost on the first day of school and I'm really really late?** There are signs pointing you in the right direction. We will hopefully have some senior pupils who can show you where to go. You will be going between classes with most of your classmates so there will usually be someone to follow!! Teachers are very understanding for the first few weeks as well.

If you mean getting lost on your way to go school, try to do a practice run at some point over the summer and work out how long it will take you.

**Classes**

**How many periods will you have in each day?** Normally 7 on Mondays, Tuesday, Wednesdays and Thursday and 5 on a Friday. Monday and Wednesday also have tutor time. However, it may look very different this August due to Covid-19.

**What is the length of each period?** Each lesson is either 50 minutes or 48 minutes long. There is a sample timetable on the website and teams page.

**What time is there between lessons?** There is no time between lessons but pupils should get to their next class as quickly as is possible.

**If you get to your class early, can you go inside or do you have to wait?** Most teachers will ask you to line up outside the classroom before each lesson. If it is first thing in the morning, you can wait in the dining room.

**Where do I get my timetable from?** You will be given a printed version of your timetable on your first day and we would strongly recommend that you copy it into your homework diary and take a photo of it on your phone in case you lose it.

**When will we know what class we're going to be in?** Given that we do not yet know exactly how we will return, or what classes will look like, along with other schools in Edinburgh, we have decided not to inform you of your exact classes yet. You will however be told which house group you will be in, so that you can start to get to know your Pupil Support Leader.

**Lunch**

**Where is the lunch hall?** The lunch hall is in the main part of the school. Both pupil entrances to the building come into the dining room first.

**Does everyone have a different lunch time or is it the same for everyone?**

*Normally*, everyone gets the same lunchtime and it lasts 40 minutes. We have 2 serveries at either end of the dining room – one for hot meals and sandwiches, whilst the other serves soups, paninis, pasta and sandwiches. Most pupils stay in the dining room or on school grounds for lunch as there are not a lot of shops nearby and it is quite a short time to go very far. We also ask that S1 pupils stay on school premises for the first term until they get to know their surroundings.

**Sports and Clubs**

**What are the sport facilities on offer?** You will see the range of sports facilities in our tour and our lipdub video – swimming pool, games hall, gym, sports fields and astro pitches. There is a list of clubs and societies on the teams page and on the website. There is also usually a clubs fair near the start of term where you can find out what is on offer and how to sign up. Further details are also available for some of the clubs from our Active Schools Co-ordinator, Ms Damen

**Can you get access to the pool before school?** Unfortunately, the pool is not open to pupils before school but there is a swimming club which you can join to allow you to swim on certain days after school.