



## **Frequently Asked Questions from In-coming First Years**

### **1. What time does secondary school begin and end?**

Answer: It begins at 9.00 a.m. and ends at 4.00 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. On Friday school begins at 9.00 and ends at 1.10p.m.

### **2. What time are the breaks at?**

Answer: The morning break starts at 10.10 a.m. for 1<sup>st</sup> Years and ends at 10.20a.m. Lunchtime begins at 1.10pm and ends at 2.00pm. For the first two weeks of term first Years get out 10 minutes earlier to allow them get their lockers and materials organised.

### **3. Where do I go when I arrive in school in the morning?**

Answer: During the Transfer Programme you can go straight to your base class when you arrive at school. You will stay here from 9.00 – 10.20am. This will happen for the first week. After week one you will follow your normal timetable.

### **4. When will I get my timetable, locker and journal?**

Answer: You will get them during the first day in school. You must get your copies, pens, books and calculator outside of school.

### **5. What do I do if I cannot find the classroom I am supposed to be in?**

Answer: Go to the main office and ask for directions or ask any teacher.

### **6. What do I do if I have a problem with my locker or my locker keys?**

Answer: Go to the main office or the Deputy Principals' office and explain the problem. Our caretakers will be nearby to help too.

### **7. What do I do if I lose my bag, jacket, journal or locker key?**

Answer: Report it to your Teacher, your Form Teacher, your Year-Head or the Deputy Principal. **Please label all of your equipment with your name and class.**

### **8. What do I do if I do not have my homework done?**

Answer: Ask at home for a note to be put in your journal explaining why.

### **9. What do I do if I don't understand what homework I am supposed to do?**

Answer: Put up your hand and ask your teacher before you leave class.

### **10. Where do I go at the breaks?**

Answer: Go to the Assembly Area for both 'little' break at 10.10am and for lunch at 1.10pm. You can buy your lunch in the school canteen or bring a lunch from home and eat it in the Assembly Area. You can also go outside to the pitch or basketball courts. A reminder that 1<sup>st</sup> Year students are not permitted to go down town during lunch.

**11. What do I do if I cannot take part in P.E.?**

Answer: Bring a note from home to explain why.

**12. What is Meitheal?**

Answer: Meitheal leaders are 6<sup>th</sup> Year students who help First Years when they need help.

**13. What do I do if I feel sick?**

Answer: Go to the main office. They will phone home for you if necessary.

**14. Can I have my mobile phone in class?**

Answer: The use of mobile phones is not permitted for 1<sup>st</sup> Year students during the school day (including break and lunchtime). We would encourage that 1st Year students do not bring a mobile phone to school. If a mobile phone is brought to school it must be powered off from 9.00am to 4.00pm. Phones which are being used inappropriately in any way during school time will be met with school sanctions which could include phone confiscation, detention etc.

**15. What do I do if I am being bullied?**

Answer: The school has a very strict anti-bullying policy. You should tell anyone you feel comfortable with - Parents, Meitheal leader, Form Teacher, Year-Head, the Deputy Principal or the Principal. The sooner you tell the sooner it can be stopped.

**16. How do I ask or answer a question in class?**

Answer: Put up your hand and wait your turn to speak.

**17. What do I do if I have to leave school to go to the dentist or a doctor?**

Answer: Ask your parents to write a note in your journal explaining that you have to leave school and the reason for leaving or your parents can send a note to the school through the school app. Show this note at the main office or to the Form Teacher, Year Head or Deputy Principal. If a note has been sent through the school app you must still call to the main office to sign in and out if returning to or leaving the school.

**18. What do I do with my gear bag?**

Answer: Leave it on the bag rack or put it in your locker. Take care with all of your property and **ensure that your name is printed on everything.**

**19. Do I carry my coat or hoodie to each class?**

Answer: No. All hoodies & jackets must be left in your locker.

**20. When do I go to my locker?**

Answer: In general: before 9.00 am, during little break, during lunch and at 4.00pm. You are not allowed to go to your locker between classes.

**21. When do I find out about school Teams and other activities?**

Answer: It takes some time to arrange all of the school teams. Don't worry – you will be informed over the school intercom and on the school app in plenty of time. Do get involved in everything that the school has to offer.