



HOLY ROOD RC HIGH SCHOOL

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Supporting Your Child's Transition Holy Rood RC High School

We have prepared some frequently asked questions to help with your child's transition to Holy Rood. If you have other questions, please email Admin@Holyrood.edin.sch.uk

Will my child visit Holy Rood before August?

It has not been possible to run a 3-day visit this year. If your child is anxious about coming to Secondary School, please contact us and we will do all we can to alleviate any worries.

How can my child find out about Holy Rood?

Our pupils have prepared an easy to read pupil guide to Holy Rood with lots of helpful information about things like the timings of the school day, the canteen, break times etc.

Will my child meet the S1 Year Head given that there is no in person 3-day visit?

We really want to ensure that your child feels confident and reassured about the transition to Holy Rood and therefore, we will make sure that we create many opportunities as possible for pupils to ask questions. Each Cluster Primary class will have the opportunity to engage in a Question and Answer session with staff during the 3-day Virtual Programme.

How will my child know where to go on his/her first day?

On your child's first day, he/she will be guided by Holy Rood staff and senior pupils. S1 pupils will be directed into the Assembly Hall by school staff.

When does school start and finish?

School starts each day at 8.40am. On a Monday and a Wednesday, school finishes at 3.50pm and on a Tuesday and a Thursday, school finishes at 3.25pm. We finish at 12.15pm on a Friday.

Which class will my child be in?

Each pupil will be allocated a Tutor Teacher. There are 20 pupils in each Tutor Group. Each child will be told their Tutor Group during the Virtual Transition Programme.

How will my child find out about his/her timetable?

We aim to provide a sample copy of the school timetable so that pupils can understand how the school day works. Your child's actual timetable will be provided on day one in August.

Which subjects will my child have in S1?

S1 pupils participate in English, Maths, French, Science, Social Subjects, Expressive Arts (Art, Music and Drama), Food and Textile Technology, Craft and Design, Physical Education, Religious Education and Personal and Social Education. There will also be an opportunity to make a Personal Choice for one lesson a week

How long is break time?

Break time lasts 15 minutes each day.

Where can my child buy lunch?

Pupils can buy lunch in the canteen or bring a packed lunch. Lunch break lasts 45 minutes. Pupils will receive information about the Young Scot card in due course. S1 pupils are not allowed to go outside the school campus boundary at lunch time.

Will my child have access to a microwave at lunchtime?

No. Pupils do not have access to a microwave.

I'm not sure if my child is entitled to a free school meal?

If you think that your child may be entitled to a free school meal, please apply online school.grants@edinburgh.gov.uk One cards will be posted to pupils over the summer by the council. Pupils who wish to purchase school lunches should bring cash in order to credit their One card. Please note you need to re-apply for a free school meal, this does not continue on from Primary.

What is Holy Rood's School Uniform?

In Holy Rood, we expect all pupils to wear full school uniform. Your child will be given a welcome gift of a school tie which will be delivered to your child's Primary School. If your child does not attend a Cluster Primary School, the ties will be sent to your primary school, before the end of term, to be given to the children. Replacement ties cost £5. You can purchase school uniform items in any store as long as it meets the criteria. When shopping for your child's school uniform, see the attached sheet for full information.

Below is a summary of our shared expectations for uniform:

- **Plain black school (not fashion) skirt or trousers**
- **Black jumper/cardigan (no logos)**
- **White school shirt/blouse (i.e. with a collar)**
- **School tie**
- **Plain black footwear, preferably shoes (no white or other coloured markings and footwear should be appropriate for school)**
- **Dark outer jacket/coat (Blazers for S5/6)**

What will my child wear for P.E.?

Our School P.E. Kit consists of a plain white T shirt and plain black shorts (logos are not permitted). Parents and carers can purchase these via the school (with School badge on T- shirt) or source their own, meeting the requirements above. PE Kit can be purchased at the beginning of PE lessons for the first couple of weeks and thereafter at morning break on Fridays in the PE Faculty. Please contact us if you require financial assistance with purchasing PE Kit. **Approx. cost is £15**

Are there any before or after sport activities at Holy Rood?

Normally we have an extensive Extra-Curricular Programme running at lunch times and after school however this is very dependent on covid-19 restrictions and staff availability.

Is there any chance of an S1 camp to compensate for covid-19 disruptions and missing out on P7 camp?

Like all schools, we must follow covid-19 rules and currently camps are not permitted. We will review the trips we can offer in due course.

Will my child be able to travel on the school bus?

If you think your child is eligible to travel on the school bus (you must live 3 miles or more away from school), you must apply to the Council for free school transport. Apply using the link:-

<https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/support-pupils/school-transport?documentId=11974&categoryId=20105>

Parental Engagement

It is very important that we work alongside you as parents and carers. We very much value your views. Please share with us the information we need to know to best support your child. As most communication will be via email and text, it is essential that this contact information is accurate. Please ensure that you keep us updated of any changes to emergency contact information.

What's in the Parent Guide?

By now, you should have received a copy of our Parent Guide, this has lots of helpful information for you as parents and carers. If you have not received this, please contact us in Holy Rood:

Admin@Holyrood.edin.sch.uk

Parent Council

We would welcome new members to our Parent Council and will be in touch in August with information regarding the Annual General Meeting and how to get involved.

What if my child is unwell?

Parents should phone the school absence line 0131 661 5871 with a reason for their child's absence. If your child does not arrive for school, you will receive a text.

What are the COVID-19 mitigations in school?

- The current Scottish Government Guidelines ask that all Secondary aged children wear a face covering in classes and in social areas. The only exceptions are when eating or drinking in the canteen area or if your child is exempt.
- All children are expected to sanitise their hands on entering the building.
- All children must follow the one-way system in school.
- On entering each classroom/work space/changing area, children should wipe clean the desks (after the teacher has sprayed disinfectant).
- Children are expected to be outside as much as possible during break and lunch time.
- There is increased ventilation in all classrooms.

How can I contact Holy Rood?

S1 parents are encouraged to contact the S1 Year Head, Mr Scott or to email generic questions to

Admin@Holyrood.edin.sch.uk