

Wallingford School



Expectations & Routines



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Welcome to Wallingford School

We are looking forward to you joining Wallingford School in September! We understand that joining a new school can be daunting and you may have lots of questions. The information throughout this booklet aims to help you understand the expectations and routines of Wallingford School, many of which will be similar to the expectations and routines you are already familiar with at your Primary School. At Wallingford School we design these expectations to ensure that learning is at the centre of everything we do and ensuring lessons are always productive.

The information in this booklet aims to answer some of the questions you may have. If you have any further questions that haven't been answered then don't worry - there are lots of teachers and students who will be on hand to answer these!

Mrs Lewis
Deputy Headteacher



Start of the Lesson



I've arrived at my classroom. Do I go straight in?

We line up outside the room and wait for the teacher to invite the class in. You are expected to wait in a single file line and quietly.

What do I do when I enter the class?

You'll be expected to go straight to your seat, remove your coat, get your equipment out, place your bag under the table and make a prompt start on the learning activity provided. If you get hot in the lesson, just ask your teacher if you can remove your school jumper. Just check your shirt is tucked in.

How will I know where to sit in my lesson?

The teacher will have created a seating plan for every subject and they will share this with you. This will give you the opportunity to get to know and work with a range of peers in your tutor group. Sometimes you might be seated next to someone you know, and sometimes you won't but it's all part of getting to know each other.

During the Lesson

How will I know what to do in a lesson?

Just like in your primary school, the teacher will give you the instructions you need to know - always make sure you are listening and not talking when these are shared.

How do I let the teacher know I have a question?

Put your hand up and wait for the teacher to respond.

What do I do if I finish the work?

You'll be expected to try the extension work provided. We often call these Wally tasks.

How will the teacher ask the class to be quiet or listen?

Countdown 3, 2, 1 or another method. When the adult is talking, everyone is expected to be quiet.



Classroom Routines

Your teacher will tell you how they want your work presented but it often includes a title and date, both underlined with a ruler.

Can I write in pen?

Yes, most lessons require you to write in pen and some subjects ask you to self mark in green pen. In Art and DT we draw in pencil. You are expected to have the equipment needed for every lesson, every day.

Do you use mini whiteboards in lessons?

Yes, we use them a lot and your teacher will explain the routines around using these in your lesson.

Will I be expected to work with other students I don't know?

Yes, this is part of how we grow as learners. We are kind and respectful towards others at all times.

What do I do with the worksheets I'm working on?

These must be stuck in neatly to your book. Your teacher will allow time in class for this.

What if I use equipment that is provided to me e.g. glue stick, science equipment etc.?

All equipment needs to be tidied away at the end of the lesson by students.

Do teachers give out points or rewards?

Yes, house points, STARS, Cookie Cards, Postcards and more - we love rewarding hard work and effort!

Can I wander around the classroom?

No, you are expected to stay in your seat unless asked by your teacher.

What if I need to have a drink?

All water bottles should be out of sight at all times and in Science labs and Computer Rooms, they aren't allowed out at all. Rehydrate at break and lunchtime and as you move between lessons if required. You can visit the water fountain at break or lunchtime but not during lessons.

What if I need to use the toilet during the lesson?

Students are expected to use the toilets at break and lunchtime. Each lesson is 50 minutes so it is expected that usually students shouldn't need to use the toilets during a lesson.

How will I know it's time to leave the lesson?

Your teacher will tell you it's time to pack up. You'll get to know the end of lesson routine in each lesson. Your teacher will know you're ready to leave when you stand behind your chair and wait to be dismissed.

What else do you need to know...

When can I eat?

Before school, breaktime and lunchtime but not during lessons. Chewing gum isn't allowed in school.

Where can I eat?

You can choose to eat in the main hall or around the school site, for example using a picnic table, sitting on the field in the summer, in a classroom before attending a club etc. Wherever you eat we always put our litter in a nearby bin to keep our school clean and tidy.

Can I bring items into school to show my friends?

We only bring into school what we need for our learning. You should bring a reading book to school every day. Please leave any toys or gadgets at home otherwise they may be confiscated by the teacher if they are interfering with your learning or inappropriate for school.

Do I have to do the homework set?

Yes - homework is set to reinforce or extend the learning in the classroom. You are expected to meet the deadline set by the teacher and you must see the teacher before the deadline if there is a good reason why it won't be completed in time.

What are the values and manners I am expected to demonstrate at Wallingford School?

Our students work hard in lessons and you will feel challenged - that's not something to worry about, it's how we learn. Students thank the teacher as they leave the lesson. We always say, "Good Morning", "please" and "thank you" and we are kind to everyone.

Where do I catch my bus at the end of the day?

You'll find your bus in our bus bay. Look out for the number displayed in the window and check it matches the number on your bus pass sent to you. You are expected to remain seated and wear your seatbelt on the bus for the whole journey to keep you and other students safe.

Do I wear my PE kit to school on the days I have PE?

No, we always arrive in uniform and change when PE is timetabled.

Are there any different arrangements for different subjects?

Yes, PE, Design & Technology and Science:

PE - Students line up on the courts in front of the sportshall and enter changing room quietly. We change promptly before going to the location of the lesson. Students share that it is helpful to change in the same spot every lesson and hang your clothes up so they don't get mixed up with other students' clothes. Make sure your name is on your kit and school uniform! You'll need to remove all jewellery and tie any long hair back. If you can't take part due to injury, bring a note to explain the issue.

DT - You'll be asked to leave your bag outside the classroom on a peg. In some lessons you'll need to tie long hair back, wear goggles and an apron to protect your clothes. Make sure you check what special equipment is needed for these lessons on Satchel, especially if you are cooking!

Science - All bags are placed on the racks away from desks for safety reasons. Your teacher will show you this routine during your first lesson.





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