

Alsager School - Excalibur FAQ Notes

Can you get a detention for wearing the wrong uniform? Does it have to be badged i.e. have the school badge on it? Jumpers must be the badged jumper and PE kit must be badged PE kit too. Shirts aren't badged. Ties must be bought from the shop. Tights, skirts, trousers, socks, shoes are not badged.

What is a standards card? It goes in the top blazer pocket and at the start of each day uniform is checked to make sure you look really smart. If you have to be asked to sort uniform out, the card is signed. On the fifth signature, you get a detention.

If you need to go the toilet during lesson, what do you do? - normally, if you need the toilet and you are desperate you will be allowed to go to the toilet. If you have to go all the time, we'll talk to you about getting into a routine. There are toilets at the bottom of the Andrews building. They are year group specific. In the Parker building, there are boys toilets near to the staff room and near to art. You will get chance to have a look round in August so you know where the toilets are.

Will different year groups be able to interact with each other? Normally, yes. You do not have to worry about getting lost as the older year groups will often help you to get to where you need to go. If you know somebody in an older year group, of course you can talk to them in between lessons. In September, it might be slightly different due to lockdown.

On the first day, do you have to go through the front entrance? I don't know yet. We think you will come through the front door but we will tell you for definite during the transition days on the last week of the holidays.

Will we be able to use the main field at lunchtime? No, because that is off site and Year 7s can't go off-site..

Can you go on the tennis courts at lunchtime? Yes. You are also allowed on the Astro turf. There is also a big area behind the Elkin building where you can play football. You can also go into the sports hall. There is loads of space.

Would you still have to be 2 metres away from each other? At the moment, the guidance for September says that you don't have to stay 2 metres from people in your bubble.

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How many lessons are there in a day? - there are five different lessons a day. Periods 1 and 2 then break. Period 3 is next, followed by lunch and then periods 4 and 5. At the end of September, you will be put into sets.

On the first day, do you have to introduce yourself? You will probably have to introduce yourself quite a bit in the first couple of weeks.

What's the most important year? Our Year 11s have said that every year is the most important year. Year 11 didn't get to sit their exams and would like to pass on that you should be the best version of yourself that you can be and work consistently throughout the years.

Will I get lost at the school? Will I get a map or a tour? You will get a map on the first day. I think everyone will get lost. Even people who have been there a long time still get a bit lost. You will also have two walkabouts. One will be at the end of the summer and you'll get a chance to have a wander round the school. On the 1st September, you'll get chance to walk around in the afternoon too. When you get stuck, there will be lots of teachers in hi vis jackets who you can ask. They will either take you or show you where you need to go.

What different lessons will we have at high school that we don't have here? You will get to do drama, music, design technology, food technology, textiles, MFL, science in the labs, PE on the field, Astro turf, sports hall, swimming pool, gym. Loads of areas to do different sports. Art in the specialist arts rooms. English literature and English language. You'll get the same lessons as primary school and more.

Do we get our own lockers to store our stuff? How big will the lockers be? Do we need to pay for the lockers? Where are the lockers? All Year 7s get their own lockers next to the Hollinshead Hall. They are big enough for books and PE kit. The lockers cost £20, with £5 being a deposit.

Will there be a seating plan in the classrooms? If there is, are they alphabetical? Every teacher usually has a seating plan. Some start alphabetical, some don't. We tend to change seating plans a lot. We know that people work well in different places in the classroom. We change them so you can learn in the best way for you. You can also speak to your teacher if you don't think you are sat in a right place for you.

Can you have a drink during lessons? Can you go to the toilet during lessons? Yes, but you should have water and children are asked to bring

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their own bottles. Please bring a bottle every day. The only exception is in the science labs as you are not allowed to eat or drink in those. You can't drink juice during lessons but you can drink juice at breaks and lunches.

How long are lessons? Is there is a time to move to your next lesson?

Normally each lesson is one hour. Five lessons a day. In between periods, you have 5 minutes to get from one lesson to another. That's what normally happens. Because of lockdown, lessons may be slightly shorter so children can move around the school safely.

Do you have to stay on the left hand side when walking in the corridors and up the stairs? In September, there will be a one-way system in school. Some stairways will be up and some down. It you walk on the left. One of the first things you do will be have a tour of the one-way system. Lots of teachers will be out on duty all the time to help you know where to go.

Can you go out of school at lunch time? How long is lunchtime? - You are allowed to go outside at lunchtime and you have 35 minutes for lunch. We give Year 7s extra time for lunch to give you more time to go to the canteen. If you have sandwiches, you can eat in the canteen. You also get chance to run around and get some fresh air. Because of lockdown, you have to stay in your Year 7 year group. Normally you can do sport at lunchtime, or go to the LRC. You can go to do music.

Do you have to call the teachers Sir / Miss? You can either call them by their names, such as Mrs. Snape. Or you can call us by sir and miss. There will be a lot of names to remember. The easiest thing to say will be to say sir and miss.

Do you need to bring your own stationary? Every day you will need a pen, pencil, ruler and organiser. You need to bring your organiser every day. In maths, you will need a calculator. In food tech you will need your ingredients. In PE, you will need kit. We will give you exercise books and text books when you need them.

If you have any medicines/medical items will these be allowed into school e.g. muscle gels etc? Parents will have to sign a medical form. A medical plan will be put in place so all teachers know about it.

When are the PE days? How often do we do PE? We don't know when your PE day is. It won't be on the first day. On the first day, you will get your

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timetable and will know when your PE days are. You have it three times a fortnight for an hour each.

What after school clubs are there? There are loads of after school clubs. The PE department will put a calendar out. On Wednesdays there are inter-college competitions. Each college competition gets points which go towards the college cup. We also have football, basketball, rugby, netball. Badminton is on Fridays. Normally we audition for the school show in September. At the moment, these plans are on hold. There are other clubs such as science club, computing club, Lego club. Your form tutor will put up the details of each club in your form room. This will be in the first couple of weeks of September.

What time does the day start and finish? The day starts at 8:40 and ends at 3:10. The buses leave at 3:20, which gives you plenty of time to catch your bus.

What happens with music lessons at high school because I want to keep playing guitar? Your lessons will carry on as normal. There are loads of practice rooms where lessons can take place. There is a timetable in the music block so you know when your music lesson is. You will let your teacher know if you have a music lesson during their lesson.