

Moving On Up

- A Student Guide

“When I first joined South Wirral I was very nervous about making friends but as my first week went by I found many friends. The lessons are fun but challenging and the teachers are super supportive. I really enjoy South Wirral.”

- Evie,
Brackenwood Juniors

“I am loving my experience so far at South Wirral High School because of the support from the teachers and students. There are so many opportunities like clubs and trips. I can recommend this school to anybody looking to join.”

- Ben,
Parklands

“South Wirral has helped me develop new skills in all subjects, and make new friends. I was worried that I wouldn't like it but I do - the teachers are always around if you need them.”

- Mia,
Raeburn

“South Wirral is an incredible school! There are lots of fun and amazing classes and clubs.”

- Bethany,
Heygarth

WHAT OUR YEAR 7 STUDENTS SAY...

"Changing from Primary to High School is a big step - but all of the students and staff make you feel welcome. There are a variety of clubs to go to and lots of trips to enjoy."

- Alicia, Millfields



"Before I joined, I was scared in case I got lost, but there is always somebody there to help you if you are worried or lost. Making friends here is easy, everybody is so kind and welcoming. It's new to all of us in Year 7 but together you will get through fine just like us."

- Amelia, Mendell



"I have made many new friends since joining South Wirral. I've joined a few clubs and feel much more confident."

- Joe, Woodslee



"Everyone in this school has been very welcoming and I'd definitely recommend this school. There are lots of clubs including my favourite (Art Club). This school is very good and there is always something for everyone."

- Emily, Poulton Lancelyn



"I feel like I have been in this school for years! The teachers are very friendly and they'll always look out for you. When I joined I was nervous I wouldn't make any friends, but I have made so many and they make my day. All of the classrooms are easy to find and I recommend you come here!"

- Mark, Heygarth



"Being at South Wirral has helped me mature and make new friends. It has helped me become more sociable.."

- Paul, Raeburn



"I love South Wirral High School - there's always a new classroom to go to and a new friend to see. If you're stuck or lost there is always a nearby student or teacher to help you. There are new topics almost every day and it's easy to make friends."

- Mia, Brookhurst



"The lessons are really enjoyable and you make lots of new friends in lessons and clubs."

- Tia, Childer Thornton



"I have fitted in perfectly with lots of new friends and lovely teachers. The first time I stepped through the entrance I knew this was the school for me."

- Theo, Little Sutton CofE Primary



YOUR NEXT BIG STEP

WELCOME TO THE SOUTH WIRRAL FAMILY

Do you want to meet lots of new friends who have the same interests as you?

Do you want to learn exciting things about Science, Design Technology and more across 12 different subjects?

Do you want to learn to sing, dance, act, paint, play basketball, trampoline?

Do you want to go on lots of trips?

Do you want to play fun games, walk the Wirral Way and go camping with your friends?

Then South Wirral High School is the place for you.

Our aim is to help you achieve your full potential and be the best version of yourself. 'Moving on Up' to high school is a big step - a giant step - but very exciting. You may have some worries about what South Wirral High School will be like, so who better to tell you than pupils who actually went to your primary school and have made that giant exciting step and are now having a wonderful time here at South Wirral.



MAKING FRIENDS

You may have been with the same group of pupils throughout your whole time at primary school, so you may be worried you will be split up from your friends and not know many children at South Wirral. You may be asking yourself “*which House will I be in?*”, “*will I make any friends?*”, “*will I know anyone in my tutor group?*”.

At South Wirral you may be in a different House or Tutor Group from your friends. But when you visit South Wirral on Welcome Day, you will meet not only many different pupils from other primary schools but you will meet year 7 students who used to go to your school and you will be looked after by lots of older students who are in the same House as you.

Your Head of Year and Assistant Head of Year will help you settle in and be your first port of call if you are having any problems.



MRS ROBINSON

HEAD OF YEAR 7



MRS MOLYNEUX

ASSISTANT HEAD OF YEAR 7

When you come to South Wirral on Welcome Day you will meet all of the year 6 pupils who are in the same tutor group as you. You will also have students from South Wirral who will answer any questions you have - honestly. If you want to ask anything before you start, say “Hi” by emailing hello@southwirral.wirral.sch.uk

You won’t lose your old friends - you can see them at break and lunch and although you may not be in the same House or Tutor Group, you may be in several lessons with them.

‘Moving On Up’ into South Wirral is a great opportunity to meet and make new friends. Everyone will be feeling the same way and our caring students at South Wirral will look after you as they remember how nervous they were when they were moving from primary into secondary.

WHAT TO EXPECT

GETTING USED TO THIS BIG BUILDING

By year 6 you know your way around the whole of your primary school. You know where everything is and who and where to go to for everything you need. You are often taught in one class by one teacher so you don't have to find your lessons on your own. Because our school is bigger you may be worried about finding your way around, getting to the different lessons on time and getting lost!

When you get to South Wirral don't worry about getting lost, yes we are a big school but there is nothing to worry about. We have over 100 members of staff and hundreds of students who are available to help you. When you leave your tutor room to go to your lessons you will be with your new friends and you can help each other.

It is possible you may end up getting a bit lost the first few weeks but teachers will not get annoyed if you are late. There are often staff who are also new to the school who start in September and they get lost too!





NEW LESSONS - SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE!

In primary school most of your lessons are all taught by the same teacher in the same classroom, working with the same pupils. Therefore you may be worried about how you will know where and when the different lessons in South Wirral will take place.

At South Wirral you may have twelve different subjects, taught by twelve different teachers, in twelve different classrooms. We have specialist science labs where you do lots of exciting experiments, two sports halls, a fitness suite, drama and dance studios, art rooms, cookery rooms, ICT rooms, design technology rooms and many more. You will be doing some subjects you have never done before and using equipment you have never used before, but the caring and supportive teachers will help you every step of the way so you can achieve the very best you can while you are at South Wirral.

You will be given a timetable to tell you what time each lesson is, where it is and with which teacher. It takes a little while to get used to but your tutor helps you and gives you your own copy so you can always ask a student, a teacher or go to the office. If you lose your timetable you can get a copy from Student Services or you can access it from your home via our Arbor



Portal which will be explained to you when you come to South Wirral. You will also receive a student planner to keep track of homework deadlines.

Some pupils are worried that teachers at secondary school are strict. At South Wirral teachers are fair and help students to achieve the best they can. We have rules which are common sense and we expect all students to be well behaved. We have a great reward system, achievement points and presentation evenings to reward all the students who work hard in the different subject areas.



THE SCHOOL DAY

8am

TRAVELLING TO SCHOOL

Many pupils walk to primary school, others may get dropped off by their parents, but many South Wirral students travel from different parts of the Wirral & Cheshire including Spital, Bebington, Little Sutton and Childer Thornton. Although the journey is longer we have school buses and are close to Bromborough and Eastham Rake train stations. On our school website there is a list of transport options. Friendly staff are on duty at the end of the day to help ensure students know which way they are going and help students who are unsure. Some primary pupils practise with a friend during the summer holidays.



8.35am

MORNING REGISTRATION

When you join South Wirral, you will be placed in a tutor group.

When you get to school in the morning you will head to your tutor group's room, where your tutor will take a register of your attendance and read out any important notices that are relevant to you.

You can use this time to get settled for the day and make sure you have all equipment you will require for the lessons ahead.

8.45am

LESSONS 1 & 2



In primary school you will often have a peg to keep all your belongings on or a tray to keep all your books in. At South Wirral we have lockers which can be hired through the staff in the front office.

You need to be organised in year 7 - and as well as your books and pencil case you will often have to bring in your PE kit and sometimes ingredients for Food Technology, but that is where your timetable and student planner comes in. If you look at it the day before and pack your bag the night before you will be sure to have the right things at the right time!

10.45am

BREAK TIME

At 10.45am you will have a 15 minute break from lessons, you can visit the canteen for a snack or catch up with your friends.



11am

LESSON 3

12pm

LUNCH TIME

Lunch time is very similar to primary school, you can go anywhere, including the canteen which sells a host of healthy goodies at break time as well as lunch. We have lots of hot options as well as dishes for the day, pizza, sandwiches and salad, cakes and biscuits.

There is plenty to choose from, so the only worry you will have is what to choose! You can, of course, bring in your own lunch and eat it in the hall. All students are required to stay within the school grounds at lunchtime.

WE HAVE LOADS OF CLUBS THAT YOU ARE FREE TO ATTEND DURING LUNCH!

12.30pm

REGISTRATION & ASSEMBLIES

Each afternoon after your lunch, your tutor will again take a register of your attendance and you will sometimes use this time to complete tasks such as quizzes and class discussions.



1pm

LESSONS 4 & 5

3.05pm

HOME TIME OR CLUBS & ACTIVITIES

We have so many different clubs at South Wirral High School. Some are at lunchtime and others after school, including art, drama, music and dance. There is also a wide range of sports clubs for both boys and girls (such as basketball, trampolining, football & rugby).

Look out for all the opportunities and try something new. It might be the start of a new hobby and will help you make even more friends. There is a booklet highlighting all the clubs/activities on the school website.

Something unique about South Wirral is our 'LORIC Pledges' system. As well as providing an extensive array of learning opportunities within your lessons, we want all our students to be confident, independent, self-disciplined, participators, performers, communicators, creators and culturally educated. Providing you with an enriched curriculum and broad extra-curricular programme of activities, to fully equip you with the skills necessary to be active and successful members of the wider community, is at the heart of our school ethos. Each pledge represents a LORIC standard which signifies Leadership, Organisation, Resilience, Initiative & Character.

As well as clubs and activities we have many trips including a residential theatre trip to London, Year 7 camp and a lot of others including trips abroad.

HOME LEARNING

HOW MUCH HOMEWORK WILL I BE GIVEN?

| Subject | KS3 |
|---------------------|--|
| Art | Once a term & Weekly Extra Curricular Club |
| Catering/H&S Care | One per half term |
| Dance | Once a term & Weekly Extra Curricular Club |
| Design Technology | Once per half term |
| Digital Photography | Weekly Extra Curricular Club |
| Drama | Once a term & Weekly Extra Curricular Club |
| English | Once a fortnight |
| Geography | Once a fortnight |
| History | Once a fortnight |
| Computing | One per half term |
| Maths | Once a fortnight |
| MFL | Once a fortnight |
| Music | Once per half term |
| PE | Weekly Extra Curricular Clubs |
| RE | One project per half term |
| Science | One booklet per half term |





E-LEARNING

At South Wirral High School we fully embrace the use of technology within our curriculum.

The school has adopted G-Suite, which gives students access to Google Classroom, student email along with a range of web apps that support their learning in school and at home. Students can see lists of online homework and complete it at anytime, anywhere on any device. The use of G-Suite allows learning to continue outside of the classroom.

SUPPORT

ANY QUESTIONS?

If you are worried about leaving your primary school to move to South Wirral, don't worry at all - that is perfectly normal. If you have any questions at all just email us at hello@southwirral.wirral.sch.uk and we will get back to you to.

We look forward to seeing you at our Transition Events in the Summer!