

Transition FAQs



What do I do regarding uniform?

There shouldn't be any issues regarding the supply of uniform. Please remember that you are entitled to a free blazer, details are in your induction pack, you can get uniform from our new supplier, Crested Schoolwear in Dudley. If you experience any issues, please contact us via transition@oatforge.co.uk and we will do all we can to support you.

Who do I contact if I have concerns?

Mr Gill and Mr Jenks will be the first point of contact - they are our Year 7 and key stage three leaders. You can get in touch via our social media channels, writing to transition@oatforge.co.uk or calling the Academy on 01384 566598. We will be doing our best to monitor out-of-hours so will try and reply as quickly as we can.

How will they know where to go and what to have on the first day?

On the first morning, our key stage three staff and all form tutors will be at the gates to welcome children to Forge and ensure that everyone knows where to go and are comfortable.

We'll also update parents with drop-off details, information about lunches and timetables. You'll already have lots of information in the students information guide which you received in March. If we've missed anything or you have a question, get in touch.

What happens to SATs testing?

Whilst testing is important, ensuring the new students are settled and used to their learning environment is even more important. We will have a plan to test in the first term and will communicate this and prepare the children thoroughly.

What if my child is struggling and doesn't want to come in?

We'll work with you and your child to reassure and build confidence. We know that some children will struggle joining a new school but we will be able to provide support. All we ask is that you let us know as soon as you can if you feel your child might struggle; the earlier we can start talking the better.

When can parents come in and meet staff and have an induction event?

You will be invited to a transition evening in July. We are really looking forward to meeting you and we know that you are keen to come in.

Will you be doing induction tours over the summer?

There are no tours planned but it's certainly something that we could consider for small groups and it reassures children. If this is something that you are interested in, write to us at transition@oatforge.co.uk.

Will there be a summer school?

Yes, there is a summer school and you will be able to find details of this in the news section of our website.

Will you be going over the work that the students have been doing in year 6? We will ensure that all students have opportunities to make good progress and go over the key stage two curriculum. The very nature of key stages means that we are constantly building and reviewing so there will be lots of opportunities to develop progress.

How will my child be grouped/set?

Until we have a wider and more accurate evidence base of your child's knowledge, understanding and skills in different subjects, children will be in mixed ability groups. Staff are prepared and will differentiate work accordingly. It will also give us an opportunity to base our decisions on the student rather than just the data - we hope that this will provide a better outcome. Some subjects will set earlier than others throughout the academic year due to the different amounts of time spent in each subject per week.

How will we know that my child has settled successfully?

There will also be a Settling In Evening which will happen after the first half-term where parents receive a report detailing how children have settled in each subject. Your child will spend time with their form tutor and the relationship they develop with them will be key in ensuring a successful transition. Form tutors will be writing to introduce themselves. At this point, you know your children better than we do so if they are struggling let us know. We see this as a two-way process.

What equipment will my child need?

Pen, pencil, ruler, reading book, pencil case

How do we pay for school dinners?

We will write to parents and introduce you to our catering company, you will be provided with an account that you can log in to and load money onto the system and track purchases. The process is very straightforward, some of it you will have received in your new parent pack. In the first week we'll ensure that all students are familiar with the cashless catering system but for the first few days send them in with some lunch money.

Who do I need to speak to if my child has a medical condition?

We ask for details of medical conditions in the new parent pack that we've asked you to fill in, sign and return. Any medical information will be held on our school system. If anything changes before your child start with us in September, please let us know as soon as you can by emailing transition@oatforge.co.uk

SEND Questions:

Who will be my child's key worker?

Only children with Educational Health Care Plans will be assigned a key worker. If your child is on the code of practice, they will not initially be assigned a key worker in the first instance, however this can be negotiated on a needs basis, at a later date. If you have any queries or concerns please get in touch via senenquiries@oatforge.co.uk

What support will my child receive in school?

Students who are on the Code of Practice will be supported in a number of ways:

- Interventions (where appropriate)
- In-class support (quality first teaching)
- One-page profiles

There are many more methods of support and these will be determined once we have received information from primary schools, key workers have spoken with parents and students (with an EHCP) hand one-page profiles have been created. If you have any queries with support please contact: senenquiries@oatforge.co.uk

What overall support will there be for my child's well-being?

At Ormiston Forge Academy the well-being of our children is a high priority and is monitored closely by all staff. We are very clear about the characteristics of the children we are helping to develop. The three key attributes that are embedded in all aspects of daily life in order to prepare all of our children for future lives are: Resilience, Aspiration and Respect. All children have termly PSHE collapse days when our three key values are embedded into student learning. We have a Success Centre where support is provided for behaviour management, mental health and individual family support. Small intervention groups operate to support children with additional social and emotional needs and the Academy has trained first aiders available throughout to deal with medical incidents.

If you are concerned about your child's social or emotional development please speak to your child's form teacher/keyworker in the first instance.

If you have any further questions, please email transition@oatforge.co.uk. Thank you.