



St. Joseph's Academy

Parent's Information Presentation for P7 intake 2021/22



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Introduction

Dear Parent/Carer,

Unfortunately under current regulations, we are unable to visit primary schools or have P7s visit St. Joseph's. This will inevitably limit the transition activities we are able to run for P7s this year. However, we will provide information through Glow, email and the school website, which will give information and insight into becoming a St. Joseph's pupil. If the restrictions change throughout the year, we will then offer visits and 'face to face' experiences. We are also currently making a video for P7s as well as further parental information.

Mr Boyle (Depute Head Teacher)

Any direct questions can be emailed to Mr Boyle on eaandrew.boyle@glow.sch.uk.



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1) School Day

Monday – Thursday – 8.50am – 3.40pm – 7 x 50 minute periods, 15 minute interval, 45 minute lunch 45 minute lunch

P1	P2	Interval	P3	P4	Lunch	P5	P6	P7
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Friday 8.50am – 2.00pm – 5 x 50 minute periods, 15 minute interval, 45 minute lunch

P1	P2	Interval	P3	P4	P5	Lunch
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Monday to Thursday school buses leave at 3.45pm.

On Fridays, school buses leave at 2.00pm, however, from 1.15pm (the start of lunchtime) those who do not get a school bus have the option to have lunch in school or leave as there are no more classes. Those who do travel on the school bus may be picked up or make alternative travel arrangements if they do not want to wait until 2.00pm.



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2) Transport

Free or subsidised school buses are provided (taxi in some cases) for those who qualify for this.

The criteria and application form for this is completed online using link below.

<https://www.east-ayrshire.gov.uk/EducationAndLearning/TravellingToSchool/Schooltransport/Schooltransport.aspx>



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3) Uniform

We are very keen that uniform standards are high at St. Joseph's. It provides a sense of pride, helps towards a work ethos, removes the pressure to wear 'fashionable' items, sets a tone of high expectations and acts a safety factor so as to easily identify pupils, both on and off campus.

Uniform

- Black Trousers or skirt (not black jeans, leggings or tracksuit bottoms)
- White Shirt
- School Tie
- School Blazer
- Black Shoes
- **Outside jackets can be worn but must be removed inside the building**



Clothing Grants are available via an online application form (for those with no access to a computer, East Ayrshire Council are encouraging using computer facilities in local Libraries). This link for this is below.

<https://www.east-ayrshire.gov.uk/CouncilAndGovernment/Benefits/Benefits-EducationAndSchool/Clothing-grants-and-free-school-meals/Apply-online.aspx>



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Our uniform consists of;

A Black Blazer with school badge

A Black skirt or smart trousers (not leggings, jeans or tracksuit bottoms)

A White shirt (not polo shirt or a black shirt)

School tie – which should be visible at all times

A plain black jumper or cardigan (without logos, designs or any visible branding)

Plain black shoes (not those with coloured or white soles or patterns)

All outdoor jackets and coats (not including school blazer) must be removed on entering the school building



Clothing Grants are available via an online application form (for those with no access to a computer, East Ayrshire Council are encouraging using computer facilities in local Libraries). This link for this is below.

<https://www.east-ayrshire.gov.uk/CouncilAndGovernment/Benefits/Benefits-EducationAndSchool/Clothing-grants-and-free-school-meals/Apply-online.aspx>



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PE Kit at St Joseph's Academy

Below are the key messages on what is appropriate P.E. kit.

Short sleeved or long-sleeved T-Shirt (No vests, no crop tops, no football tops)

Shorts (appropriate length)

Tracksuit bottoms or jogging bottoms (No jeans or school trousers)

Sports leggings

Trainers (no school shoes, school boots)

Moulded shoes/boots for outdoor on astro if you have any.

Waterproof jacket and bottoms

Change of **socks**

Pupils **must** bring a **change of kit** (top, bottoms and footwear). When outdoors pupils are permitted wear outdoor jackets/hoodies.

Pupils **must** enter and leave the P.E. department in uniform (if you have P.E. period 1 you must still arrive in school wearing your school uniform)

Injured or unwell

From time to time pupils are injured or ill and are unable to take part in P.E. However, this **must** be supported by a signed parental note.

However, even if injured or ill, pupils **must change** and take part in the lesson in some capacity (setting up, scoring, refereeing, timing).

Forgetting Kit

Pupils are **expected** to bring full PE kit on each day they have P.E. If pupils forget kit, they are **expected** to borrow clean, laundered kit and return it at the end of the lesson.

Refusing to borrow kit will be dealt with seriously:

This will result in a referral to the Principal Teacher and parents/carers will be informed.

Forgetting P.E. kit again will result in a referral to your Year Head (DHT).



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4) Curriculum

Pupils study the following subjects in S1:

Maths, English, R.E, Modern Languages (French, Spanish), Social Subjects (History, Geography, Modern Studies), Science (Biology, Physics, Chemistry), Technical, Art, Music, H.E, P.E, ICT, Pupil Support.

Period allocation for each Department in S1

Subject	Maths	English	Modern Languages	Science	Social Subjects	Art	RE	PE	Music	Technology	ICT	Drama	Home Economics	PSE
No. of Periods	5	5	3	3	3	2	2	3	2	1	1	1	1	1
Groupings	S	R	R	P	R	P	R	R	P	P	P	P	P	R

The groups in which they will attend subjects are as follows:

Register class (R) This will be your register class e.g. 1A1, 1M1 which will have up to 30 pupils in the class.

Practical class (P) This will be your practical class e.g. 1P1, 1P6 which will have up to 20 pupils in the class.

Set Classes (S) Classes are set depending on current working levels and pace of work. These can change.



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5) Communication with Parents

Digital

All communication will be distributed via our social media platforms and school app except where this is an individual message to a parent/carer.

School Website :- <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/ea/stjosephsacademy>

School Twitter :- @stjoacad

Satchel 1:- Subject Teachers update this when homework has been issued. Parents download the app and can see any homework has been issued, by which subjects, and the due date.

School App: Open the app store associated with your phone. Search for 'School App for Parents'. Download and install the app for free. Enter St. Joseph's Academy, Kilmarnock. Most messages show under the 'Messages' tab rather than news.

Letters

Any events trips or important information will usually be sent to parents by letter (often duplicated by email).

At times they may have permission slips attached.

Letters are also uploaded onto the school app.



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5) Communication with Parents

Phone/Texts

Texts are sent from the school to inform parents of unreported absence or truancy.

Principal Teachers, Pastoral Care or Year Heads may call regarding concerns or an incident.

All communication from/with school will go through your child's Pastoral Care teacher.

Contacting St. Joseph's

Calls to report absence should be made to the school office.

For parents/carers making contact with school regarding their child (other than sickness/absence), the initial point of contact for would be via their Pastoral Care teacher.

Mrs Parker (Acting) – Columba House

Miss Cathie – Andrew House

Mrs Kelly (Acting) – Margaret House



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6) Free School Meals

Application forms for free school meals must be submitted online. For those with no access to a computer, East Ayrshire Council are encouraging using computer facilities in local Libraries. As a last resort, parents can call and someone will complete the form over the phone for them.

<https://www.east-ayrshire.gov.uk/CouncilAndGovernment/Benefits/Benefits-EducationAndSchool/Clothing-grants-and-free-school-meals/Clothing-grants-and-free-school-meals.aspx>

Lunch system/ParentPay

We use a Biometric cashless system in St. Joseph's, where pupils have their thumb print taken and this is used to open their account when purchasing lunch. The ParentPay system used in most primary school is also used in St. Joseph's, where parents/carers credit their child's account with an appropriate amount of money. Under normal circumstances, pupils queue up and choose from the selection of food on a particular day. There is a queueing system in place

Mon – S1, S2, S3, S4/5/6

Tue – S2, S3, S4/5/6, S1

Wed – S3, S4/5/6, S1, S2

Thurs – S4/5/6, S1, S2, S3

Fri – First come first served (Fridays tend not be busy)

This system is not running the moment due to distancing measures and we are using an ordering system which requires parents to use a pre order portal. This may or may not be in use at the start of session 2021/22.

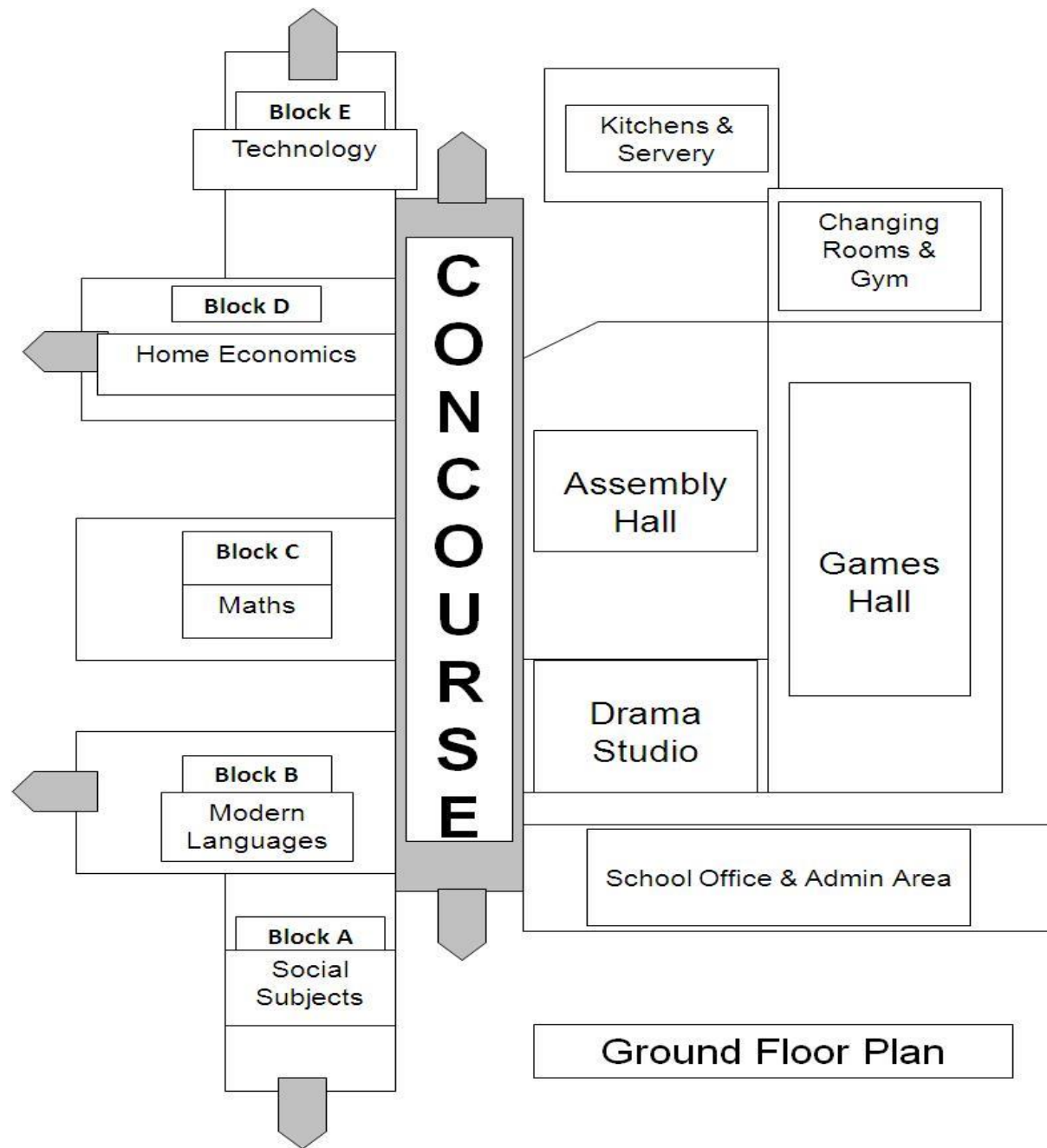
<https://www.east-ayrshire.gov.uk/EducationAndLearning/Schools-Catering/SchoolLunchMenus.aspx>



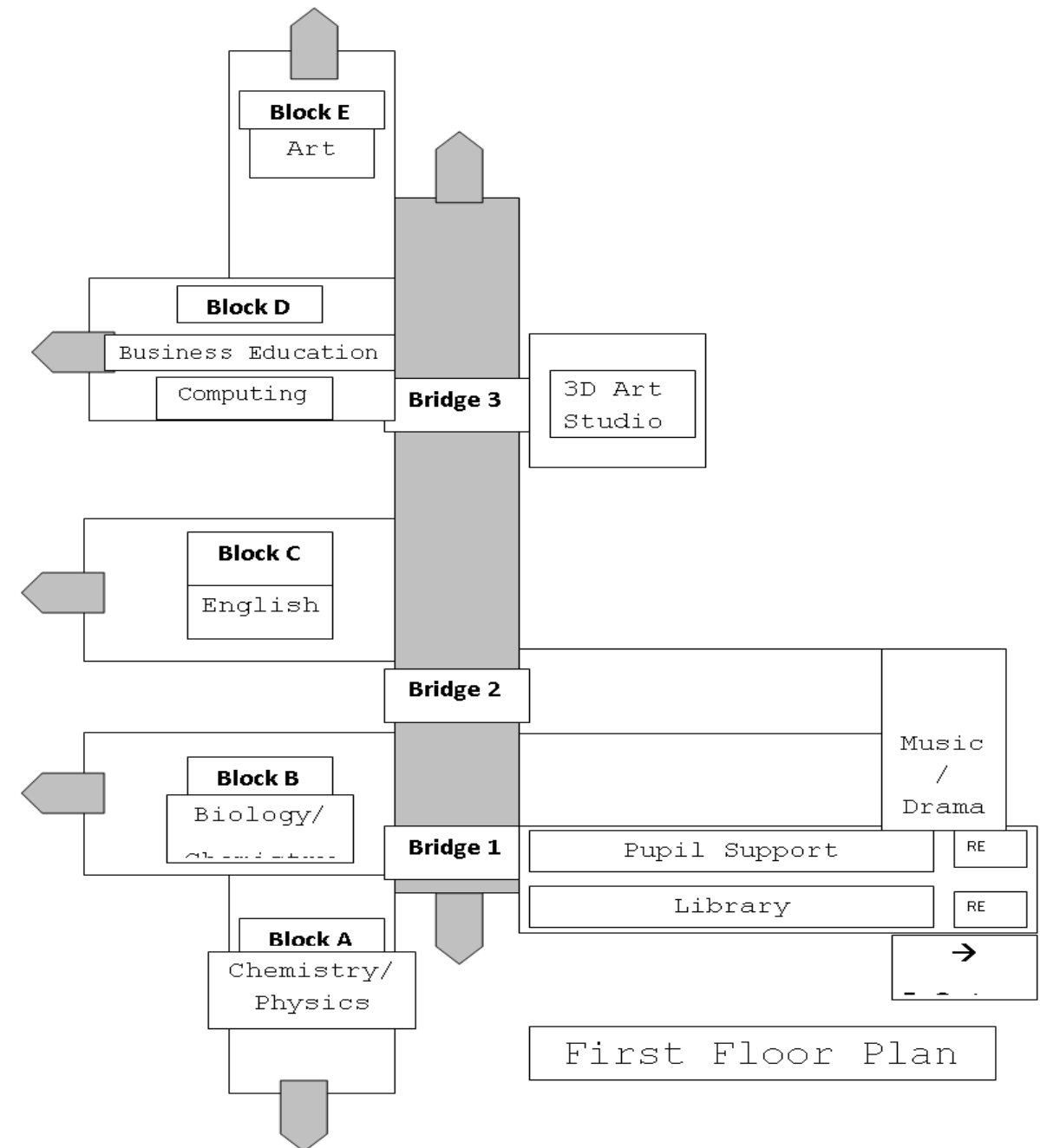
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Map of St Joseph's Academy



Ground Floor Plan



First Floor Plan



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