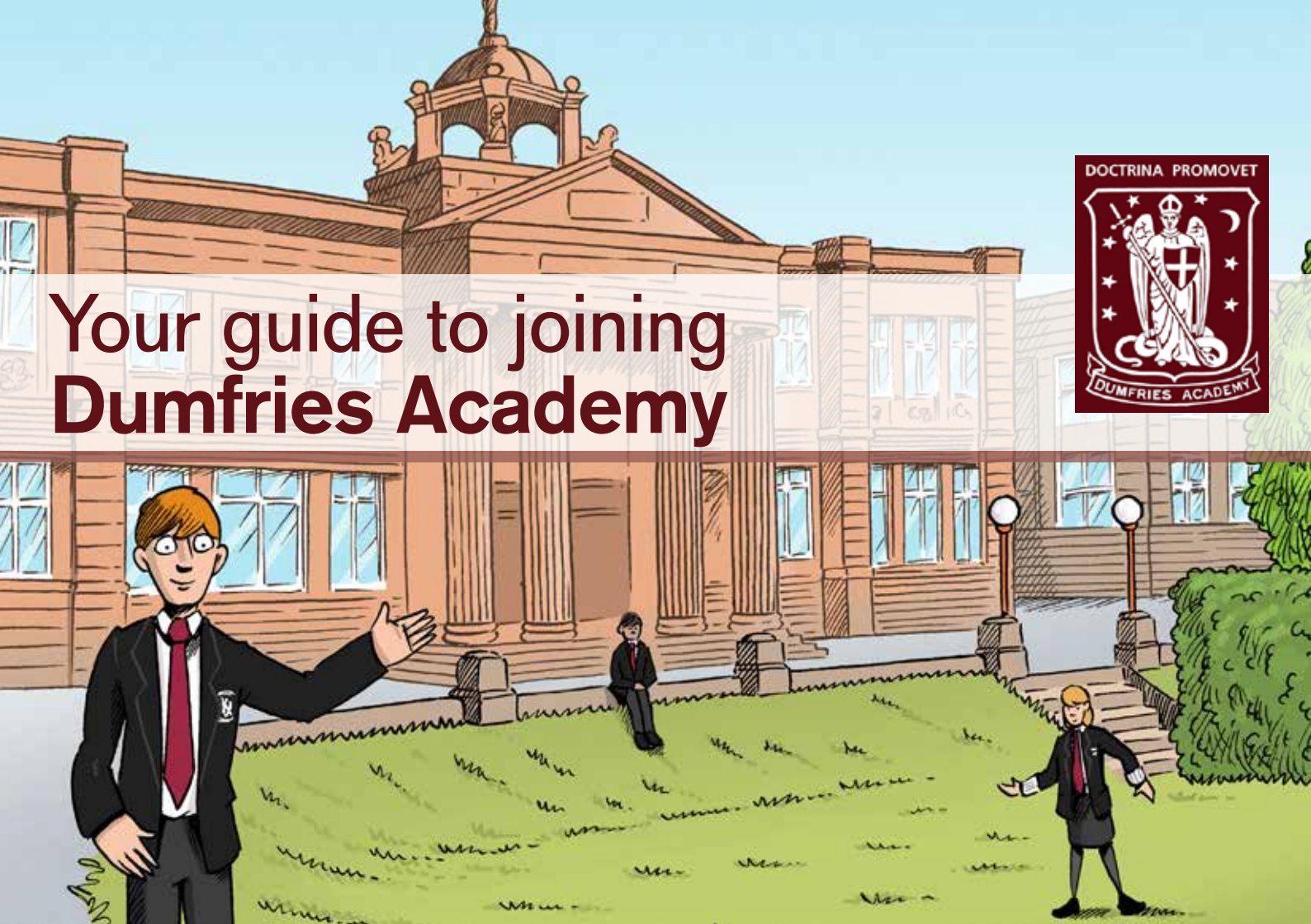


# Your guide to joining Dumfries Academy



## How will Dumfries Academy help prepare me for coming to secondary school?

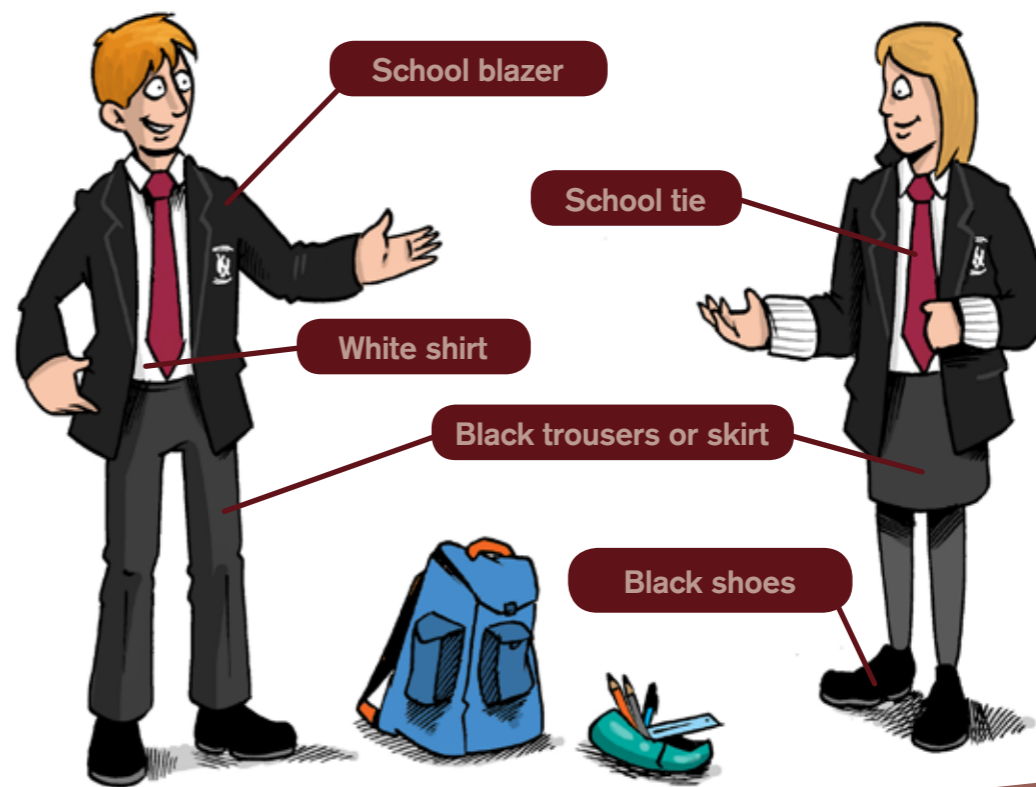
We know that coming to secondary school can be exciting, but it is natural to have some worries. We do everything we can to help you settle into Dumfries Academy as confidently and happily as possible.

In the term before you join us, we set up 'Team Groups' for the pupils that will start that year. This will help you get to know your teachers and new classmates.

Your P7 teacher will share lots of resources with you, and it is a brilliant way for you to get to know them.

You will also visit us during the summer term so you can get to meet your new classmates and teachers and explore our school.

## How should I prepare for my first day?



To make sure you have a successful start at Dumfries Academy, the key thing is preparation. You will settle in more easily and confidently if you know that you have everything you need when you arrive at school.

So, make sure you have the correct uniform in plenty of time before your first day. (We will provide your parents/carers with all the information they need.)

Make sure you have a school bag which has room for all your books and equipment. Your equipment should include:

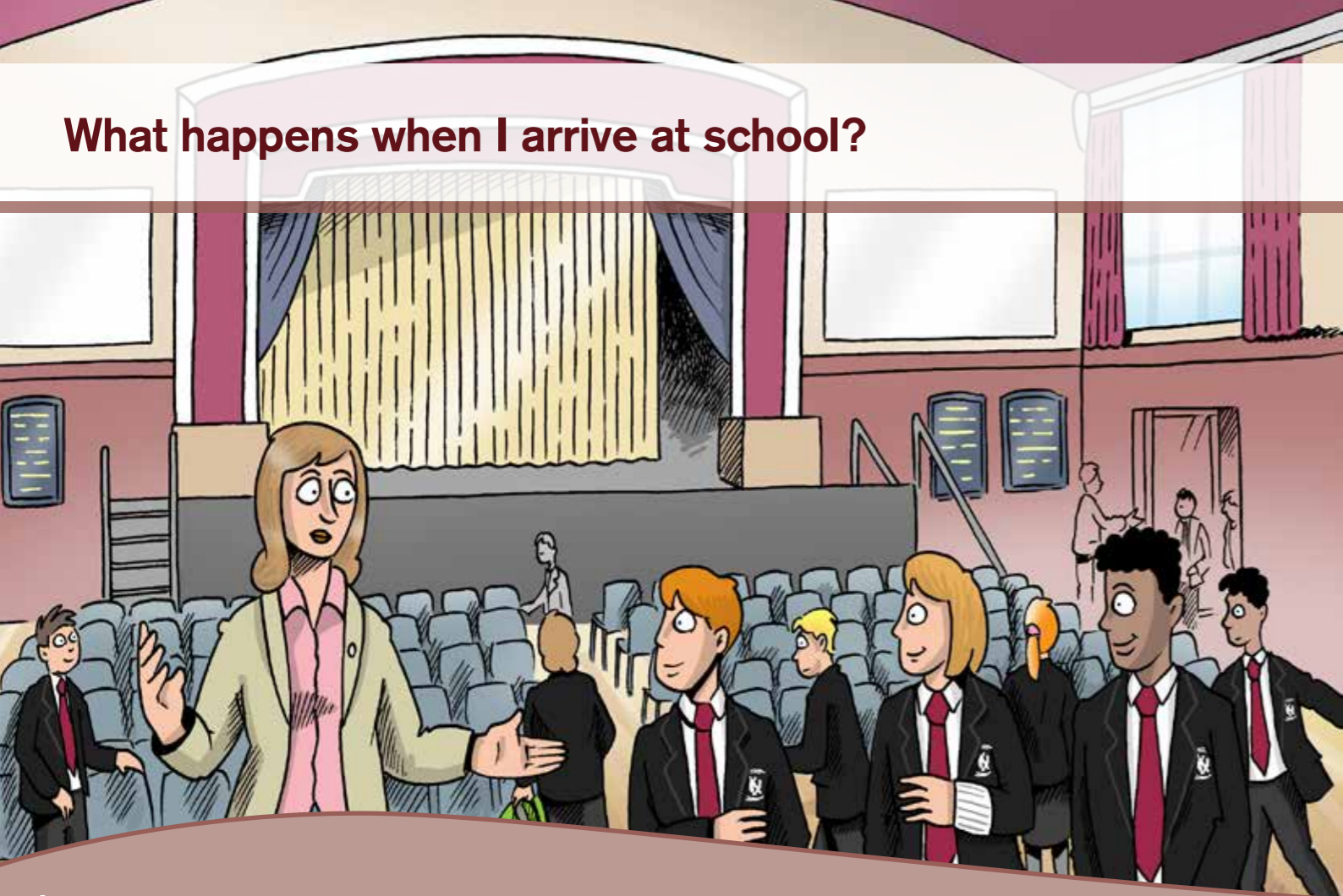
- Pens
- Pencils
- Eraser
- Scientific Calculator

We will provide you with stationery.

Pack your bag the night before, so you aren't in a rush and don't forget anything. This is good practice every day.



## What happens when I arrive at school?

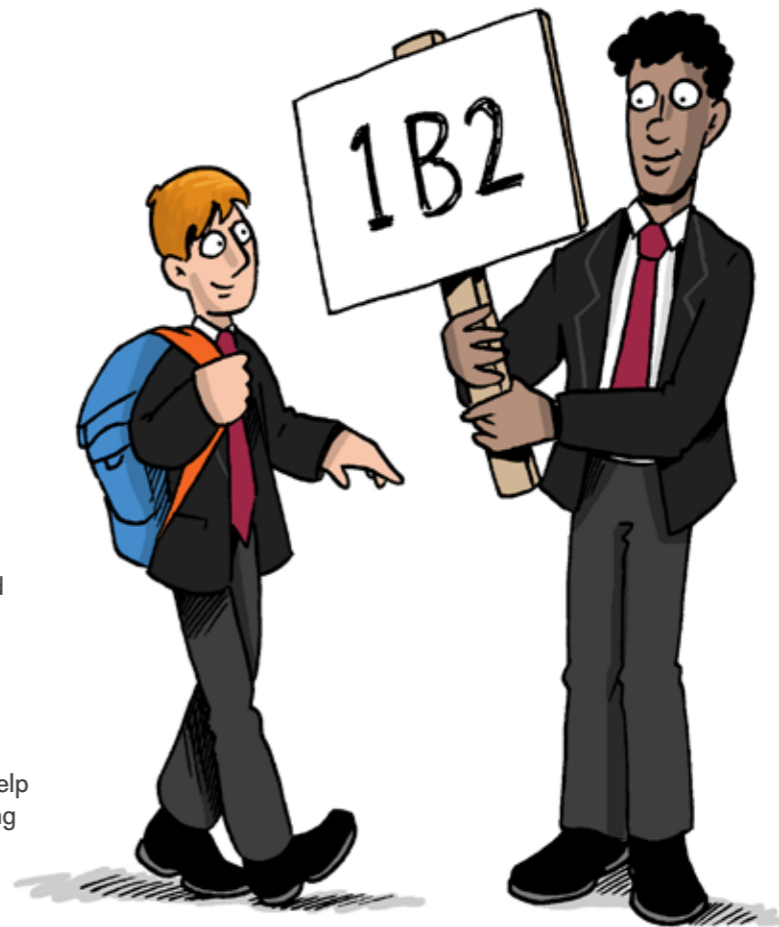


On your first day, you will go to the hall, where your teachers will meet you.

Your class buddies (pupils from S3 and S6) will guide you to your form room. Here you will meet your tutor every morning to check how you are. They will always be available during this period to talk to if you ever need help or advice.

Over the first one or two weeks, your buddies will take you to all your classes and to the lunch hall until you feel settled and get to know your way.

We are all very friendly at Dumfries Academy and anyone will be happy to help you. You will soon know where everything is and feel at home!



## What happens during the school day?

Every day, you will have seven periods of 45 minutes each and a break and lunchtime. Initially, you will get an extra-long lunch hour and go to lunch before the rest of the school.

### MONDAY-FRIDAY

TUTOR TIME	08:51 - 09:00
Period 1	09:00 - 09:45
Period 2	09:45 - 10:30
Break	10:30 - 10:50
Period 3	10:50 - 11:35
Period 4	11:35 - 12:20
Period 5	12:20 - 13:05
Lunch	13:05 - 13:45
Period 6	13:45 - 14:30
Period 7	14:30 - 15:15

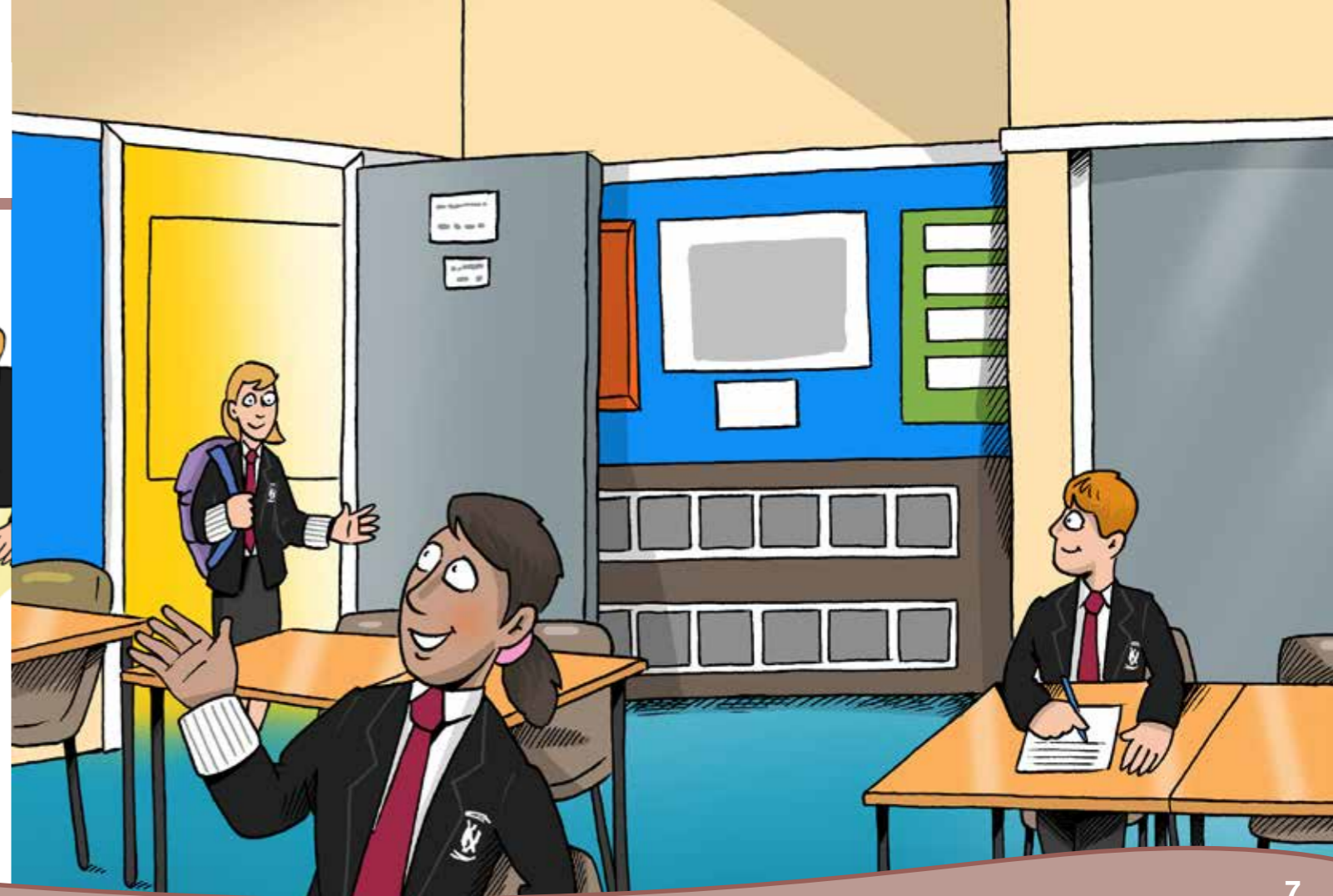
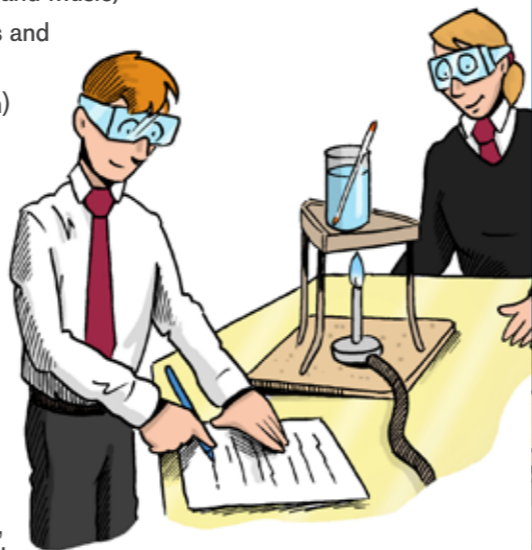
You will study:

- Expressive Arts (Art and Design, Drama and Music)
- Health and Wellbeing (Home Economics and Physical Education)
- Languages (English, French and Spanish)
- Mathematics
- Sciences
- Social Subjects (Geography, History and Modern Studies)
- Religious and Moral Education
- Technologies (Business Studies, and Craft, Design and Technology).

We have fantastic facilities at our school which include science, design and technology rooms, and dance and drama studios.

We will also give you homework via 'Teams'.

You will be responsible for completing your homework on time and to your best standard.





## What will Dumfries Academy expect from me?

We treat everyone with respect at Dumfries Academy. This includes your classmates, teachers and school staff. You can show respect to them by:

- Following instructions straight away.
- Being on time for your lessons.
- Talking and acting politely at all times.
- Bringing all the equipment and homework you need.
- Letting others work without distractions.
- Completing your learning tasks quietly and to the best of your ability.

And show respect around the school by:

- Following all instructions straight away.
- Wearing the school uniform.
- Talking and acting politely at all times.
- Walking directly and safely to your next class.
- Eating and drinking only when you are allowed.

We focus on rewarding you when you have done well and we have a system of rewards to celebrate when you have excelled.



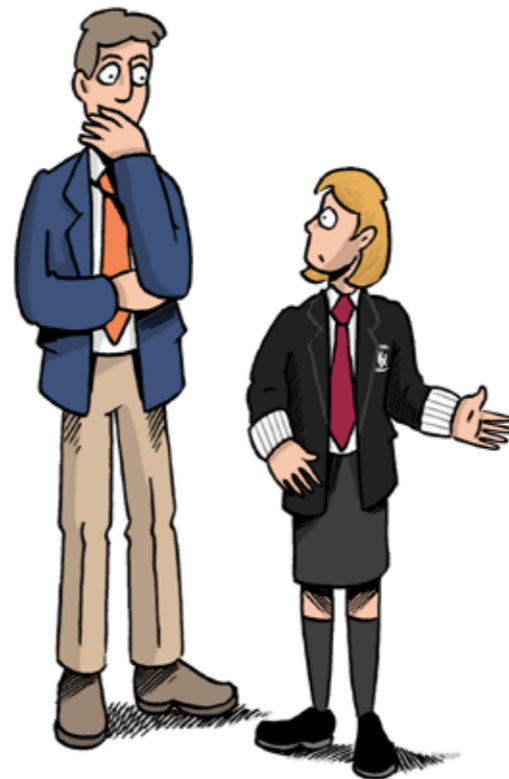
## What support can I get?

Everyone has worries and problems from time to time, and we know that you will only be able to do your best when you feel happy and secure. It really helps to talk to someone, so we want you to come to us if you need help with anything in school or outside.

You can speak to any member of staff, but the best people to speak to are:

- Your tutor. You will see them every day and you will get to know each other well.
- The Principal Teacher of Pupil Support. There is one in each House.

We do not tolerate bullying of any sort, so if this is happening to you, tell a teacher straight away. We will sort it out.



## What other activities can I take part in?

There are a wide range of extra-curricular activities at Dumfries Academy which run at lunchtime and after school. They include:

- Basketball
- Cheerleading
- Chess
- Dance
- Debating
- Drama
- Eco
- Football
- Hockey
- Music
- Netball
- Rugby
- School Councils
- School Shows

You may have opportunities to represent your school in competitions with other schools at local, regional and national levels.



We are very proud of our Schools of Netball and Football. If your application to join is successful, you will receive extra lessons and expert training and learn about tactics and roles such as umpire, referee and even match reporter!

You can also take part in school trips. For example:

- Day trips to shows and events, and the Science Centre in Glasgow.
- As you move up the school, short trips to London or Chester.
- Trips abroad to go skiing, or visit World War 1 Battlefields, Italy and Greece.

Everything is linked to the subjects you are studying, but these trips are brilliant fun and give you fantastic experiences of the wider world.

There are so many opportunities, so make sure you try some of them!

# We can't wait to meet you at Dumfries Academy!



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