

NETHER STOWE SCHOOL

Year 7 Student / Parent Information Booklet 2022



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Key Dates for 2022

Autumn Term commences	05/09/22
Half Term	24/10/22—28/10/22
Christmas Holiday	19/12/22—02/01/23

INSET/ TRAINING DAYS	TBA
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May be subject to alteration

Welcome from Glyn Langston-Jones

Headteacher



It gives me great pleasure and pride to introduce myself as the Headteacher of Nether Stowe School and to welcome you to our school. Congratulations on gaining your place!

We are a flourishing school proud of our inclusive ethos and warm welcome. Most importantly, we are a strong, supportive, community where every pupil is individually cared for and valued. Furthermore, we are extremely proud to be a member of the Arthur Terry Learning Partnership, one of the best regarded Multi-Academy Trusts in the West Midlands. The partnership shares our commitment to excellence in teaching and learning and putting children at the core of everything we do.

At the heart of the vision and values of the school is the belief that every young person has the right to be a powerful learner and that education changes lives and transforms communities. We have a highly ambitious and aspirational focus on academic excellence, enabling every pupil to succeed and thrive. We develop and nurture individual talent to create kind, ambitious, self-confident, resourceful and resilient young people who are proud to contribute to their school and local community and who are ready to face the challenges of the modern world. The four qualities we expect from every student are determination, creativity, teamwork and pride.

Traditional values of strong discipline, good behaviour and respect are also core to our ethos: we have high standards and we challenge, support and inspire everyone to be the absolute best they can be. Nether Stowe is a school you can be truly proud of!

The change from Primary School to Secondary can often seem like a daunting prospect. It shouldn't be. At Nether Stowe we have a hard working, dedicated and determined team of staff who are thoroughly devoted to making the transition as easy and as enjoyable as possible.

This is an exciting new step for your son or daughter and an exciting time to be joining the school. Each pupil begins a journey in Year 7 that leads to their ultimate success in Year 11 and Year 13. We take our responsibility for this journey – and your trust in us – very seriously.

That's why we are determined to provide a fantastic, high-quality, learning environment; great teaching; amazing experiences and outstanding opportunities for our students: both inside and outside the classroom. As a result, we expect the very best from everyone.

I look forward to meeting with you all and working closely together over the coming years!

1.

Glyn Langston-Jones
Headteacher

Welcome from last year's Year 7 students

When I first came to Nether Stowe I was really excited , because there is more opportunities and more independence than primary school. I also felt nervous of the older children, yet coming to form has helped me make friends with some of the older kids. I love doing netball and P.E. The teachers are really nice here and my Form Tutors, Head of College make me feel safe and help me enjoy my school life.

Freya G, Chase 6



Joining Nether Stowe was great, everyone was lovely. My favourite part is the after-school clubs. I enjoy PE the most.

Charlie R, Wall 3

When I first came here I wasn't sure how I would fit in and I wasn't sure how I would remember the school layout but after a few days I found my way around and began making friends, the teachers and sixth form helped me if I was lost and now I feel like I fit in .

Daniel M, Chase 5

I felt anxious when I first started. The teachers and pastoral staff help me feel settled. My favourite part was playing basketball in the new sports hall. The thing, I enjoyed the most was meeting new friends.

Luca E, Wall 3.



When I first started, I felt nervous but when I got in I was excited and happy because everyone is so kind. My favourite thing about school is that they make the lessons fun and if your sad they help you. School makes me feel safe and settled because you make really good friends. The thing I enjoy the most is meeting new people and P.E. because you get to learn new sports and you can do sport after school and play matches for the school.

Eden C, Wall 3.



When I first came to Nether Stowe I was on edge and worried about things like homework and getting lost but as time went on I learnt the layout and handed homework in on time.

Ryan C, Chase 6.

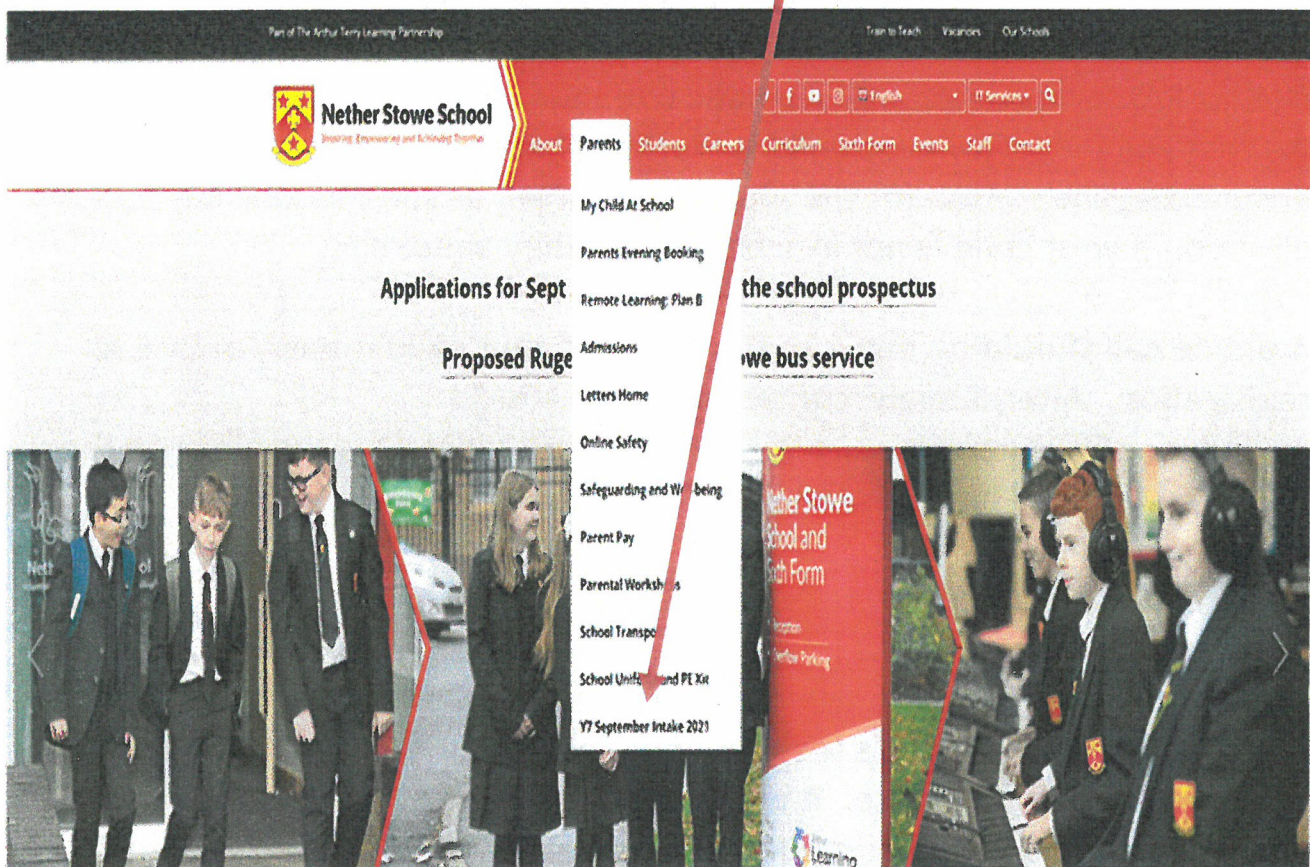
Induction Days

Year 6 students will be invited to our induction days during June 2022 where they will experience some time in our school and classrooms, meeting some of the teachers and key staff.

Parents will be invited to attend an information evening explaining the induction process.

We have put together on our website, as much of the information as possible, you would normally receive .

This can all be found under the “Parent” tab :



Questions

If you or your parents have any questions, once you have looked at all the information and presentations, please send an email to the following address:

Year6Questions@netherstowe.com

This will not generate a direct response, but queries will be collated into a FAQ before the end of term. If needed, (due to the specific nature of your query) your email will be forwarded to the relevant member of staff for their attention.

Absence / Truancy Call

Nether Stowe operates an automatic communication system that will contact you directly if your child is marked absent at registration. This will ensure that the reason for the absence is known as soon as possible and will alert you if your child is not in school when they should be.

A phone call should be made to the school if your child is away or late to registration. Alternatively, contact can be made to attendance@netherstowe.com. If there is no reason for the absence the above system will be operated.

Your child will be automatically included on the system.

By introducing this service, our school is able to reassure you that we are meeting the Government's recommendations in contacting you on the first day of your child's absence. It will also provide an early warning system if your child should go missing from school. As always your child's safety is paramount.

Our Attendance Office, Mrs Goodman, as well as members of the Pastoral Team, are always happy to discuss concerns around attendance and support in getting your child to school.

Top 10 myths about secondary school

1. **I won't make friends.** You will spend the first day of term just with Year 7 and there will be lots of fun activities that your tutor will organise to help you to get to know other people.
2. **I'll get lost.** We expect you to get lost in the first few weeks so don't worry. There are always students and members of staff on the corridors to help. You will also get a tour of the school with your Form Tutor on your first day. Nether Stowe is quite a small site, so you will quickly get to know your way around.
3. **I'll have lots of homework.** You will be introduced to your Knowledge Organisers, which will be used to support Home Learning. There is also a Study Club after school where you can do your home learning and get help if you need it.
4. **I won't be able to do the work.** Check you understand the work in the lesson, use your Knowledge Organiser and if you are not sure ask your teacher - that's what they are there for. You can always go to Study Club too!
5. **I might not get to school on time.** If you have a long walk, bus or train journey then you could practise your journey over the summer holidays with your parents or a friend. You could also arrange to meet up with friends and come together.
6. **I'll forget books or equipment.** Use your timetable to help you get organised and make sure you have all the right equipment in your school bag. The best time to do this is the night before school—then you won't have to rush in the morning and forget something!
7. **I'll get into trouble.** If you listen and follow instructions then there is no reason to get into trouble. Sometimes we make mistakes and that can't be helped—your teachers make mistakes too!
8. **I won't know my new teachers.** The teachers at Nether Stowe are really friendly and because it's a small school they will get to know you really quickly even if they don't teach you. Some of your teachers you may only see once or twice a week.

9. **I won't know what to do if there's a problem.** If you have any problems you can talk to your Form Tutor, a Student from the Senior Team or any member of staff you feel comfortable talking to. You can also come to the Pastoral Office before or after school at break time or lunch time—there is always someone there who will listen. We will show you where key staff are in September.
10. **I'll be bullied.** If you feel you are being bullied then you should let someone know straight away. Don't let it carry on—it will be dealt with straight away. Again you can talk to your Form Tutor, a Student from the Senior Team or any member of staff you feel comfortable talking to. You can also come to the Pastoral Office at any time.

Don't worry... Help is always at hand!

At Nether Stowe we have a strong Pastoral Team who are always there to help you – no matter what the problem is.

- Your Tutor - who you will see every morning
- Your College Head:
 - Mr Dolman (Beacon College)
 - Mr Cunningham (Wall College)
 - Mr Novis (Trent College)
 - Mr Sault (Chase College)



Mr Dolman
Beacon College



Mr Cunningham
Wall College



Mr Novis
Trent College



Mr Sault
Chase College

- Miss Sullivan—who oversees the Pastoral Team
- There will also be your Pastoral Head who will help you settle in:
 Mrs Wort (Beacon College)
 Mrs Appleton (Wall College)
 Mrs Blackwell (Trent College)
 Mrs Harrison (Chase College)



Miss B Wort
Beacon College



Mrs S Appleton
Wall College



Mrs C Blackwell
Trent College



Mrs J Harrison
Chase College



We also have a Senior Student Team who are ready to help you out so there is nothing to worry about.

Everyone wants you to settle in quickly and make lots of new friends. We want you to be the best you can be and if anything gets in the way of that we can help. You only have to ask.

If you have a problem you simply go to the Pastoral office or find a Buddy and let them know what the problem is and it will be sorted out quickly.

What equipment will I need?



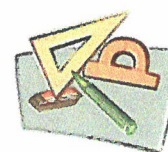
A school bag will be really important. Make sure it is big enough to carry all the books you need for the day's lessons as well as your pencil case and water bottle.

It is a good idea to have a bag for your P.E. kit too.

You will need pens, pencils and a ruler for nearly every lesson. You would also find coloured crayons and highlighters useful. It would be a good idea to keep all these safe in a pencil case.

You must have as a minimum:

- 2 Black Pens
- Compass & Protractor
- Pencil
- Sharpener
- Eraser and 15cm Ruler
- Green Pen
- Scientific Calculator
- Water Bottle



If you would like to hire a locker you will be able to do so. This means you can keep your P.E. kit safe until you need it, or put some of your books or your outside coat in there instead of carrying them around for the whole day. Complete the form and a locker will be ready for you in September.

School Reward Shop:

You will receive Credits for all your hard work and effort in school and extra-curricular activities.

You can spend these in the Reward Shop to buy: equipment, cake or drink vouchers, footballs, water bottles.



Uniform & P.E. Kit

At Nether Stowe, your uniform is an important part of our identity and college. We expect all students to wear their uniform with pride.

Our uniform is:

- Black blazer with school badge to be worn at all times
- White shirt with collar which buttons to the neck
- Black skirt **must be knee length** and not be of a tight-fitting style or material; OR black trousers must be plain, formal and of an office style with no visible zips
- Black V-neck knitted sweater (optional) – plain and long sleeved
- School College tie – clip on type which must always be worn
- Dark socks or plain tights
- Shoes (boys and girls) - plain black and leather style in appearance, all shoes must have a heel (less than 2.5cm)
- Coat (not a hooded top) which should be plain and dark

For P.E. you will need:

- Plain black shorts /skort with school badge
- Plain white short-sleeved polo shirt with school badge
- White sports socks
- Football boots and shin pads (for football and rugby lessons)
- Swimsuit/swim shorts towel and swimming hat
- Trainers (not pumps/Converse/Vans/Hi tops)

Expectations regarding school uniform will be strictly enforced.

For optional items of PE kit please refer to attached uniform list

Things to remember:

- We do not wear training shoes in school – only for P.E.
- Trousers must be school trousers – not fashion trousers that look like leggings or jeans
- Skirts must be knee length and not be of a tight fitting style or material
- No nail varnish or false nails
- No extreme haircuts or styles (boys must be grade 2 or longer)

All of the school uniform & P.E. kit is available from Uniforms Plus, Lichfield and Blueprint Designs, Rugeley

What will my day be like?

The Nether Stowe day starts at 8:35 when the bell will ring and you will go to your form room for registration with your form tutor. This will last for 30 minutes.

Each morning you will do different things, which include:

- An assembly each week.
- A discussion about our 'Big Question'.
- Literacy and comprehension focus
- Current Affairs
- Student Voice— where you will have the opportunity to talk about what is going well in school and things you would like to improve.

You will have a copy of your timetable so that you will always know what lesson you have and where it is.

8:35—9:05	Tutor Time
9:05—10:05	Lesson 1
10:05—11:20	Lesson 2 and Break Time—opportunity to go outside, go to the canteen to buy a drink or snack, go to the toilet, fill up your water bottle.
11:20—12:20	Lesson 3
12:20—13:50	Lesson 4 and *Lunch Time—opportunity to go outside, go to the toilet, fill up your water bottle, get involved in college competitions or lunch time clubs
13:50—15:00	Lesson 5
15:00—16:00 Wednesdays Only	After School Enrichment Activities

* There are different lunch times for different year groups.

Music at Nether Stowe



- * Trumpet
- * Piano
- * Clarinet
- * Keyboard
- * Flute
- * Violin/Viola
- * Guitar
- * Trombone
- * Drums
- * Cello
- * Saxophone
- * Singing

Do you play a musical instrument?

Would you like to learn to play one?

At Nether Stowe every student has the opportunity to learn a musical instrument or join the choir.

Instrumental lessons are provided by the school.

Please see the leaflet explaining all about Music tuition and how to apply.

If you would like lessons a form will become available on My Child At School (MCAS).

More details will be available in September.

Other Clubs

There are lots of clubs and groups to join at Nether Stowe. Some take place at lunch time and some happen after school. Have a think about what you would like to do.....

- Duke of Edinburgh Award
- Astronomy
- Badminton
- Battle Rap Club
- Calming Colouring
- Culinary Masterclass
- Dog Care
- Eco Warriors
- Football
- Games Club
- Gym Fitness Club
- Gymnastics/Trampolining
- Jigsaws
- UKMT Maths Challenge
- Politics and debating
- Religion and Media Film Club
- School Production—2022 production GREASE
- School Newspaper
- Beginner Spanish
- Table Tennis
- Trading Card Games and Graphic Novels
- Technology Masterclass
- Science Big Bang
- Textiles club
- Trampolining
- Netball
- Handball
- Fitness
- Basketball
- Athletics
- Tennis
- Cricket

The Y6-7 Transition Project

The Y6-7 Transition Project has been put together by teachers from your primary and future secondary schools. It will be used when you start at Nether Stowe in year 7 as a way of you introducing yourself to your Form Tutor. The Y6-7 Transition Project is all about you and your future hopes and dreams. It will help your Form Tutor and fellow class members to get to know you when you begin in September.

Over the next few weeks, you will be putting together an A4 sheet all about yourself. Think carefully about the space you have and the information you will include. You may wish to consider things like:

- *You and your family
 - *Personal fact file: favourite music, film, story, animal
 - *Your favourite primary school moment, make it clear which primary school you went to
 - *Your favourite subjects
 - *Your hobbies
 - *Your hidden talents
 - *What are you most proud of
 - *Favourite place to visit
 - *What would you like to achieve at Nether Stowe
- Your tutor is really looking forward to what you have to say about yourself!

ATLP LORIC Programme

As part of the ATLP (Arthur Terry Learning Partnership), we have been asked to share the LORIC programme. The booklet and the activities in it will help encourage you to discover new skills and attributes, as well as further enhance those you already have.

LORIC stands for: Leadership, Organisation, Resilience, Initiative and Communication.

Look out for it on the website with all other Transition information:

