

July 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

My name is Mrs Linnell and I am writing to introduce myself as the Head of Year 7 at Ashlawn School. As some of you are aware, I am currently on maternity leave but I will be back in post at the end of the first half term. It was lovely to meet so many of the students on transition day and see all of their smiling faces, I am very much looking forward to getting to know them all as the academic year progresses. The transition into Year 7 can be daunting for both students and parents but please rest assured it is an exciting experience and myself and the pastoral team at Ashlawn are here to support you every step of the way. The students have a lot to look forward to as they join the Ashlawn community starting with our induction programme where they will get to spend time with their form tutor and tutor group allowing them to forge new friendships and start to build that all important relationship with their form tutor.

As we end the current year and begin to plan for a successful year in September, we look forward to working in partnership to help your child to meet their potential. The following important information will help your child to have a successful start to the new academic year. We appreciate you taking the time to read this so that you can support your child to have a smooth start to the year and for them to be prepared to learn and meet school expectations every day.

Induction:

All students will be participating in a full induction programme at the start of the academic year, designed to inspire, challenge and support them in having a positive start to the new school year.

The Year 7 induction programme will take place over the following days:

Wednesday 7 September	Induction Day
Thursday 8 September	Trip to Beaudesert Activity Centre
Friday 9 September	Standard school day

Timings of the school day:

Times	
8.45	Registration (20 min)
9.05	Lesson 1
10.10	Lesson 2
11.10	Break (20 minutes)



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11.30	Lesson 3
12.30	Lunch (45 minutes)
1.15	Lesson 4
2.20	Lesson 5
3.20	End of school day

Uniform:

Following a recent survey of students, parents and staff about uniform, please find below the updated Ashlawn uniform as agreed with the Academy Improvement Management Board.

Core Uniform:

- Ashlawn School logo polo shirt (Burgundy for Y7-9 and Black for Y10-11)
- Black, smart, tailored trousers (please note that trousers should be full length, in a fabric suitable for formal wear and with a button and a zip. Trousers that have rivets or stitching like jeans are not permitted. Leggings are not permitted)
- Ashlawn School logo knitted jumper/cardigan (if student wishes to wear a jumper)
- Plain black leather or leather look shoes or trainers

Optional Uniform Items:

- Ashlawn School logo pleated skirt.
- Ashlawn School logo shorts

Please note students can ONLY wear a pleated Ashlawn skirt with logo or shorts with a logo. NO other skirts or shorts will be permitted.

PE Kit:

- Ashlawn School PE t-shirt
- Ashlawn School PE shorts/skort
- Royal blue socks
- Trainers

Additional PE items:

- Rugby/football boots
- Gum shield



Other PE items are also available to purchase but these items are not required. Please note that we only ask for the new style PE kit to be purchased if you choose to buy new items. We encourage passing clothes to younger siblings/family/friends or purchasing second hand clothing items.

We encourage parents and carers to purchase uniform items from the PTA uniform shop. Good quality pre-loved items are available at very low prices and making use of this option is brilliant for the environment.

Other uniform notes:

- Make up should be subtle and designed to enhance rather than accentuate features
- Students may wear one pair of stud earrings and one watch. Please note that earrings **must** be removed for PE, therefore care should be taken when choosing to pierce ears.
- No other jewellery is permitted. **All other jewellery, including any facial piercing jewellery, will need to be removed upon entry to the school site.**
- Hair should be of a colour that is considered natural. Extremes of hair colour or style are not permitted. Hair should be styled in a neat style that allows participation in all activities. Longer hair will need to be tied back for PE and other practical activities and should not cover eyes during lessons.
- Nails should be of a length suitable for all activities, including PE. All nails should be short and, if painted, be a neutral colour. Please note that students will need to file down long nails if they attend school with nails of an unsuitable length to safely participate. Please do not allow long extensions during the school term unless you are happy for your child to be directed to file them to a suitable length for all school activities.

Equipment:

The following equipment is essential for each student.

- School bag, large enough to hold A4 sized books and equipment
- Pencil case
- Black or blue pen x 2
- Green pen for responding to feedback
- HB pencil x 2
- Rubber
- Sharpener
- Ruler, 15 or 30cm
- Highlighter pen
- Scientific calculator

Homework:

I would greatly appreciate your support in regularly checking Edulink for homework which has been set and ensuring your child is able to meet the deadlines for these.

Mobile Phones/airpods:

Mobile phones and airpods are not permitted in school. Students should hand these into their Head of Year at the gate if you prefer that they use them during their travel to and from school. If a student is seen with a phone, either in their hand or in their pocket, this will be confiscated and returned at the end of the school day. If a student is seen using a phone within the school grounds this will be confiscated and will need to be collected by a parent or carer during reception opening hours.

I am really looking forward to September working with you as parents and carers, and welcoming students back into school for this next phase of their journey.

Yours sincerely



Fern Linnell
Head of Year 7