



Hermitage
Academy

WELCOME TO YEAR 7

Welcome...

We're delighted to have you join us as a student here at Hermitage Academy. Our school vision is simple: we want you to enjoy coming to school each day, learn lots along the way and leave here with many happy memories. We know the transition from primary to secondary can sometimes be daunting, but we're here to help you every step along the way. We're super excited to meet you and learn more about what you will bring to the Hermitage school community!

Mrs Maughan, Head of School

Meet the Transition Team!



Mrs Stabler
Year Manager



Mrs Burn
Head of Achievement



Mrs Bulmer
Transition Lead



Mrs O'Carroll
Pastoral



Miss Richardson
Pastoral



Mrs Pritchard
SENDCo

Who?	What do they do in school?
Mrs Stabler	Will keep a check on your behaviour and attendance
Mrs Burn	Will look at your progress in your subjects and support you to achieve your best
Mrs Bulmer	Is here to make sure your move from primary to secondary school is as smooth as possible
Mrs O'Carroll and Miss Richardson	They will help you if you have problems with things at home or worries whilst at school
Mrs Pritchard	Is our SENDCo who will co-ordinate support in school for our SEND students according to their plans.

Form tutors

Your form tutor will be the teacher who will see you at the start of every school day. They will check your uniform and equipment each morning and make sure you are ready for the day ahead.

You will be given the name of your form tutor before you attend the transition days here at Hermitage Academy. This information will be sent to your primary school.

Head of Achievement	Mrs Burn
Year Manager	Mrs Stabler

Form Tutor	Location
Mr Kirkbride	Art
Mr Brooker	Maths
Miss Watson	Science
Mr Armstrong	English
Miss Moore	Maths
Miss Sawyer	Spanish
Miss Mouzon	History

The transition staff (on the previous page) and your form tutors will ensure that you are happy, safe and ready to take on your new and exciting chapter!

The school day

Every day will begin with your form group and form tutor, where pupils will check that they are ready for the day ahead, hear important messages and find out about events happening in the week ahead. Across the week, in form time, you will complete: World Ready, Reading, Careers and attend an assembly. You will then attend five lessons across the day, broken up with a morning break and a lunch break. Every Monday, we have slightly different timings to the school day, to include an extended form period.

Mondays (Both Week 1 and Week 2)	
Extended form (World Ready)	08:25 - 09:15
Lesson 1	09:15 – 10:10
Lesson 2	10:10 – 11:05
Break	11:05 – 11:25
Lesson 3	11:25 – 12:25
Lunch	12:25 – 13:10
Lesson 4	13:10 – 14:05
Lesson 5	14:05 – 15:00

Tuesday – Friday (both Week 1 and Week 2)	
Form time	08:25 – 08:50
Lesson 1	08:50 – 09:50
Lesson 2	09:50 – 10:50
Break	10:50 – 11:10
Lesson 3	11:10 – 12:15
Lunch	12:15 – 13:00
Lesson 4	13:00 – 14:00
Lesson 5	14:00 – 15:00

We run on a two-week timetable (Week 1 and 2) made up of 25 lessons each week. Although you start every day with your form tutor, you will be in a set class for your subjects. This means that you will be in a class suited to your academic ability. We hope that this will allow you plenty of time to become familiar with the school environment and make new friends.

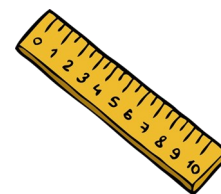
Weekly Lessons

In Year 7, most students' timetables consist of the following lessons, although some students receive extra support in Maths and English.

Subject	Lessons per fortnight	Subject	Lessons per fortnight
English	8	History	4
Maths	8	Geography	4
Science	8	ICT	2
Art	2	PE	4
Technology	1	Spanish	4
RE	2	Music	2
Drama	1		



Equipment



It is incredibly important that you come to school equipped for the day, and unlike Primary School, you have to bring this yourself! It is **compulsory** for students to carry a pencil case with the following equipment:

- 2 black pens
- 2 green pens
- 2 pencils
- 1 ruler
- 1 eraser
- 2 highlighters
- 1 glue stick
- 1 scientific calculator – we recommend the CASIO FX-85GTCW


You will also need to bring a bag every day, **large enough to carry an A4 size file for homework/exercise book and PE kit.**


Form Tutors will check that you have these items every day and you will be flagged if you don't, which could lead to a sanction. Our Library has items that you can purchase, if something breaks or runs out.


Menu 2025-26

Students will have access to hot meals in the Dining Hall, as well as a range of sandwiches and salad options. The Main Hall offers our 'Grab & Go' food. The year groups will operate on a rota for who is first in throughout the year.

The cost will be £2.80 for a school meal. This price will be subject to review in the Autumn term due to anticipated inflation costs.

	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
 LUNCH MENU - WEEK 1					
Traditional main	CHINESE CHICKEN NOODLES	HOMEMADE SAUSAGE ROLL	ROAST CHICKEN OR CUMBERLAND SAUSAGE DINNER	COTTAGE PIE	CRISPY CHICKEN AND CHIPS
V Vegetarian option	CHEESE AND ONION PASTY	QUORN CHILLI TACOS	QUORN SAUSAGE DINNER	JACKET POTATO WITH VARIOUS FILLINGS	SPICY BEAN BURGER
Grab & Go	PEPPERONI PANINI MARGHERITA PANINI SPICY MEATBALL PASTA RUSTIC TOMATO PASTA	CHICKEN WRAP CHICKEN AND BACON PASTA TOMATO & BASIL PASTA	BBQ CHEESE AND BACON PANINI MARGHERITA PANINI CHICKEN KORMA CURRY & RICE	CHICKEN WRAP BEEF BOLOGNESE PASTA SPICY TOMATO PASTA	CHICKEN PIZZINI MARGHERITA PIZZINI CHIPS WITH CURRY SAUCE, BEANS, CHEESE OR GRAVY
Dessert	APPLE CRUMBLE AND CUSTARD	GINGER CAKE AND CUSTARD	CHOCOLATE CRUNCH WITH CUSTARD	RICE PUDDING WITH PEACH SLICES	FRESH FRUIT SALAD

	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
 LUNCH MENU - WEEK 2					
Traditional main	CHICKEN KORMA CURRY	SAUSAGE AND MASH WITH ONION GRAVY	ROAST CHICKEN OR BACON CHOP DINNER	BEEF CHILLI AND RICE	BEEF BURGER AND CHIPS
V Vegetarian option	JACKET POTATOES WITH CHEESE	VEGETABLE SPRING ROLL WITH CURRY NOODLES	QUORN SAUSAGE DINNER	HOMEMADE CHEESE AND ONION TART	VEGAN NUGGETS WITH CHIPS
Grab & Go	PEPPERONI PANINI MARGHERITA PANINI SPICY MEATBALL PASTA RUSTIC TOMATO PASTA	CHICKEN WRAP CHICKEN AND BACON PASTA TOMATO & BASIL PASTA	BBQ CHEESE AND BACON PANINI MARGHERITA PANINI CHICKEN KORMA CURRY & RICE	CHICKEN WRAP BEEF BOLOGNESE PASTA SPICY TOMATO PASTA	CHICKEN PIZZINI MARGHERITA PIZZINI CHIPS WITH CURRY SAUCE, BEANS, CHEESE OR GRAVY
Dessert	APPLE AND BLACKBERRY CRUMBLE	CHOCOLATE ORANGE CAKE WITH CUSTARD	STICKY DATE PUDDING WITH TOFFEE SAUCE	HOMEMADE FLAPJACK WITH CUSTARD	FRESH FRUIT SALAD

	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
 LUNCH MENU - WEEK 3					
Traditional main	MINCED BEEF AND DUMPLINGS	CHICKEN TIKKA MASALA CURRY WITH RICE	ROAST CHICKEN OR BRAISED BEEF DINNER	CORNED BEEF PIE	CRISPY FISH AND CHIPS
V Vegetarian option	JACKET POTATO WITH CHEESE AND BEANS	MACARONI CHEESE	QUORN SAUSAGE DINNER	BREADED QUORN NUGGETS WITH SPICY WEDGES	MARGHERITA PIZZA AND CHIPS
Grab & Go	PEPPERONI PANINI MARGHERITA PANINI SPICY MEATBALL PASTA RUSTIC TOMATO PASTA	CHICKEN WRAP CHICKEN AND BACON PASTA TOMATO & BASIL PASTA	BBQ CHEESE AND BACON PANINI MARGHERITA PANINI CHICKEN KORMA CURRY & RICE	CHICKEN WRAP BEEF BOLOGNESE PASTA SPICY TOMATO PASTA	CHICKEN PIZZINI MARGHERITA PIZZINI CHIPS WITH CURRY SAUCE, BEANS, CHEESE OR GRAVY
Dessert	TOFFEE APPLE CRUMBLE WITH CUSTARD	CHOCOLATE CRUNCH WITH CUSTARD	STEAMED SYRUP SPONGE WITH CUSTARD	CORNFLAKE TART WITH CUSTARD	FRESH FRUIT SALAD

World Ready

World Ready is an additional lesson to your usual subjects. Your form tutor will deliver this lesson on a Monday morning, and at the end of every week we will revisit some of the topics to help you remember the content and consolidate your learning.

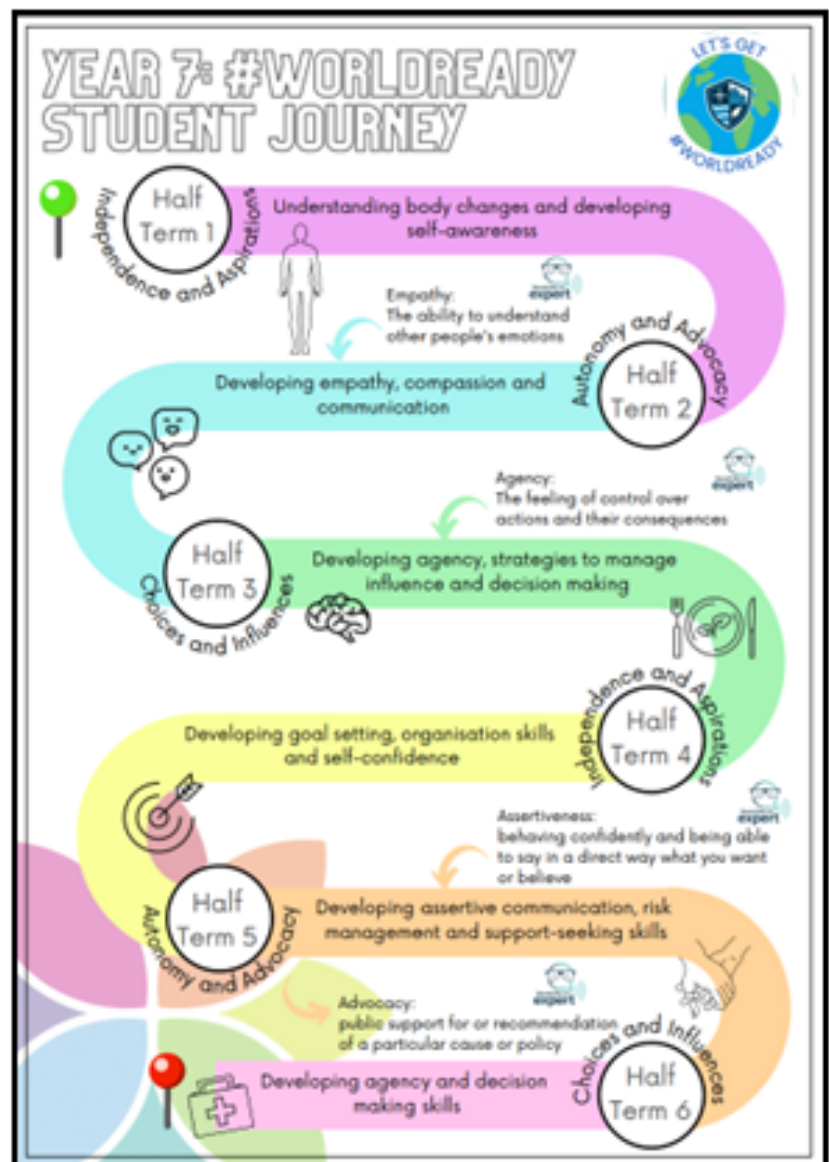
We study topics such as British Values, healthy relationships, how our body changes, being safe both online and offline, leading a healthy lifestyle and effective revision strategies.

We also look at topics not usually covered in other subjects, such as finance and money management, community topics and careers.

We do a lot of discussion and group work in World Ready, which will develop your confidence and allow you to demonstrate great leadership skills and teamwork.

You will have a workbook to write down your ideas and every topic will have a detailed knowledge organiser to work from.

This is what your year in World Ready will look like:



Next Steps

Careers Programme Overview Hermitage Academy Year 7

THE CAREERS &
ENTERPRISE
COMPANY

Vision Statement

Our students are ambitious with their career choices and have a clear understanding of how their time in school directly affects their career after.

Contact: Michelle Wake

Email: Michelle.pearce@hermitageacademy.co.uk

Telephone: 01913887161

Milestones and Learning Outcomes

Half Term 1

Be able to identify and make effective use of available support systems.

Half Term 2

Be aware of their passions, skills, and work preferences and understand how these could inform their career choices.

Half Term 3

Understand how the local and national labour market is changing and what this might mean for their career choices.

Half Term 4

Have developed essential skills which will support them to transition to the workplace

Half Term 5

Be inspired and motivated by career opportunities which they may not have otherwise considered

Half Term 6

Understand the expectations, behaviours, and cultures of a range of workplaces

Year 8 Key LO

Have a clear understanding of the learning pathways and qualifications that they will need to pursue their career goals

Key Events and Experiences

Half Term 1

Meet the Careers Team Event
Log Aspirations & Destinations
Sunderland Uni Introduction to University
Reg: Unifrog, Who am I, Career Terminology, Skills for Careers
Tutor groups: Adopt a Charity Launch
FSQ Questionnaire

Half Term 2

Skills and Values Durham Works
Assembly: Routes post-16
Reg: Exploring possibilities, success, what comes after school, technical qualification.
Careers Outreach

Half Term 3

Bowmer and Kirkland Enterprise Challenge
Careers Fair

Reg: What is a career, career journey, What is LMI?

Half Term 4

DWP: Skills for Work
SEN: Careers Workshops
Reg: What is an entrepreneur, skills & enterprise challenge

Half Term 5

ITPS Technology links to work
JA day in the life of
Reg: Work Life Balance, Challenges & Rewards, What are my Skills?

Half Term 6

Unifrog building on my skills and Values

Reg: Careers & the Future, Climate, Space, Marketing, Computing

Year 8 Key Events

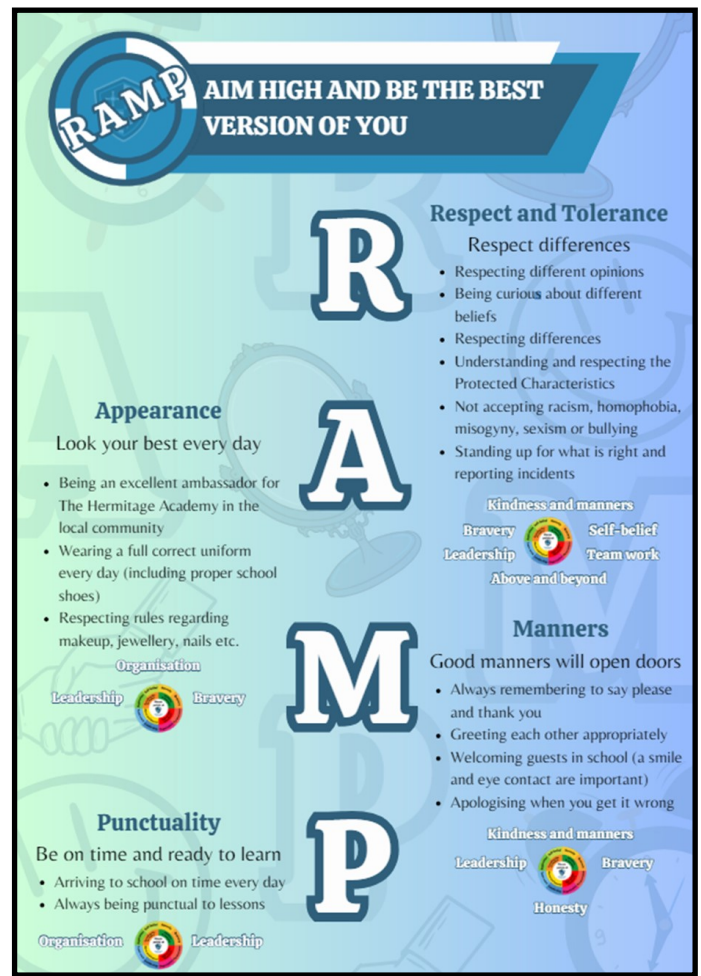
Further personal guidance
College and University visits
New College Durham workshops

Inspiring and preparing young people for the world of work.

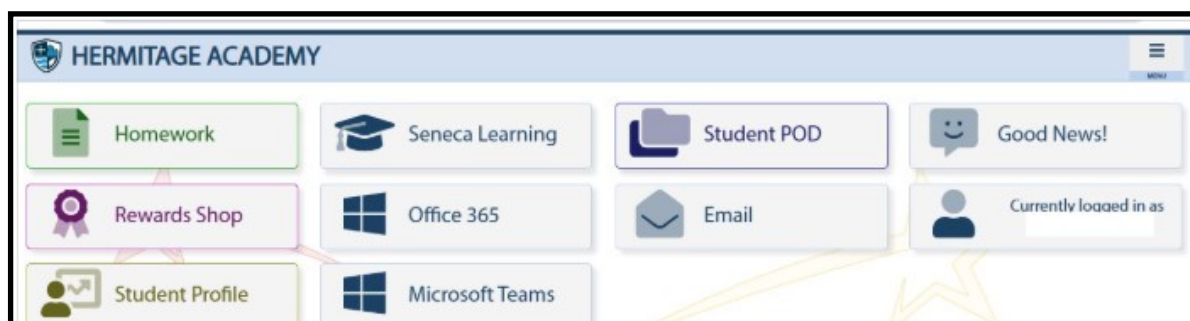
RAMP

When in school we always want you to do your best. In school we will expect you to: **R**espect each other, yourselves, your teachers and our school; to look your best every day and think about your **A**pppearance; to have excellent **M**anners and have excellent **P**unctuality, by being on time for school and your lessons every day.

EASI



EASI is the system we use in school, that has everything you need to know and access in one place, making it really 'easy' for you to get through your week in school. When you arrive, you will be given your own EASI login, where you can check how many positive points you have received, buy items from our reward shop, check your homework and also check if you have been given any consequences or detentions. You can also access Office365, your school email, Student Pod and Teams - all important programs that you will need for school and homework. You will receive a login and a password that both you and your parents can use.



Rewards

We LOVE celebrating success, and we reward students with house points and other prizes. We regularly hand out house points in and out of lessons, for great teamwork, going above and beyond, bravery and high quality homework, amongst others. In fact there are TWELVE categories where you can score points!



As well as house points, we award postcards, certificates and lapel pins. We celebrate success every week in our assemblies, and we have a huge celebration assembly at the end of the Autumn and Summer terms. We do regular shout outs on social media, and you can cash in your points for stationery, queue-jump passes and free food!

In addition, we hold a termly 'Culture Vultures' challenge to all students, where you can choose a range of tasks to complete, allowing you to broaden your knowledge on topics not normally covered in subject lessons.

Houses

The house system is about encouraging you to be your best and work towards excellence in all that you do. Every house point earned by you goes into your house grand total. We love the spirit of competition and it is always exciting to see which house has won the competition each term!

Each house is named after a quality we aim to embody: Ambition, Evolution, Synergy and Integrity. You will be placed into a house within the first half-term of Year 7. Regardless of what house you are placed in, we want you to excel and exemplify all of the traits that your house holds.



Uniform



- Navy blazer, Navy V-neck jumper (optional) or cardigan with embroidered school badge, Navy tartan pleated skirt and School tie – only available from Emblematic
- Pale blue school shirt
- Plain navy straight cut trousers – available from Emblematic. Trousers must not have stripes and must not have any adornments or fashion zips. No combats, no jeans, no jeggings or leggings are permitted.
- Plain navy formal knee length shorts, of the same material as school trousers, during the summer term. No jeans, cargo style, leggings, stretchy or tracksuit style. PE shorts, in all styles are not allowed.
- Plain black, formal, leather or leather style shoes which can be polished. No trainers, plimsolls, pumps, boots or converse shoes.
- Socks must be navy, black or dark grey. They must be ankle socks or longer. Trainer liners are not permitted.
- Tights must be plain navy, black or grey.

PE Kit:

- Sector polo, Sector panel shorts and/or skirt and/or cuffed tracksuit pants and/or leggings, Knee high navy sports socks - only available from Emblematic.
- Trainers must be worn in PE lessons.
Plimsolls, Converse, or canvas type shoes are not suitable. Students are advised to wear football boots for football and rugby. Optional items are available and can be viewed on the website.

General Appearance:

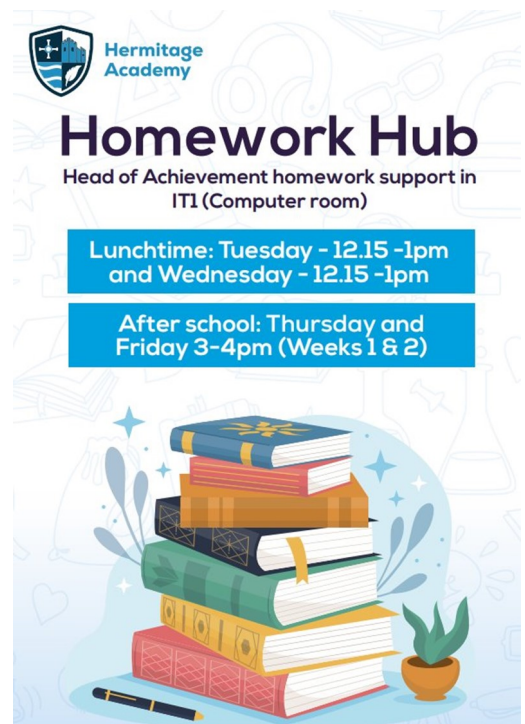
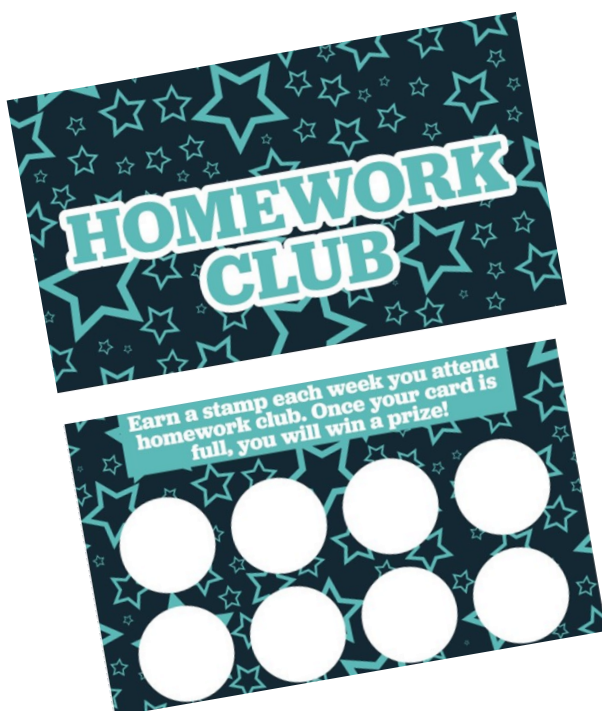
- Makeup should not be visible.
- False eyelashes are not to be worn.
- Nails are not to be painted and false nails are not to be worn.
- Haircuts should not be less than a 1
- Students are not permitted to have tram lines or sculptures in their hair or any extreme hairstyles.
- Students should not dye their hair an unnatural colour

POD

Hermitage has a virtual learning environment called Student POD. Student POD has all the information about the subjects you study including Knowledge Organisers, topic resources and helpful tools and information for revision. This is where all online textbooks for your children are stored. You log onto Student POD by logging on to your Office 365 account and clicking the SharePoint app.

Homework Hub

Homework Hub is a great opportunity to complete homework and gain support with organisation. Heads of Achievement staff Homework Hub to help students if they are struggling with any particular pieces of homework or would just like some support in keeping on top of it! Students are rewarded for attending with House Points and the Homework Hub loyalty card.





Hints & tips

We want you to be ready for everything at school. To prepare you for September, here are some hints and tips for success:

- Buy an alarm clock. School starts when the bell goes at 8.25am. Aim to be on school site no later than 8:20am.
- Work out your route to school, whether you are walking or taking public transport.
- Practise until you are confident and time yourself. If you intend to walk with friends, try out the route with them in the holidays.
- Always eat some breakfast. It is a long time until lunch. Breakfast club in school starts at 8am.
- If you need a bus pass, make sure you apply for it in plenty of time; it may take a couple of weeks to come through, so don't leave it until the end of the holidays.
- Buy a big, strong bag. And bring it everyday.
- Don't call it 'playtime' – it's 'break' now.
- Find out where the toilets are, where your form room is, and the offices of your Year manager and Head of Achievement.
- Remember the 'buddies' who helped you on the Transition days – they would be good to find and befriend in the first week of school. You will see more of the buddies in September as they will help within your form class in the first few weeks in September.
- When you are given your timetable, make at least three copies: one for your bag, one for your pocket and a spare for home. The copy for home will help you organise your bag for the next day.
- Use the night before school to pack your things for the next day. Mornings can be chaotic, so put your clothes in an easy-to-reach pile and your bag at the front door. Make sure you have your equipment in your bag too. Look on the next page for a helpful checklist.
- Never be afraid to ask for help if you are not sure where to go. The older students may look intimidating, but they will be happy to help you out.
- At lesson changeover, stick with someone who knows where they are going. For the first half term you will be travelling together with your form group, so there is less chance you will get lost.



- Be polite. Say please and thank you. Hold doors open for people. Clear up your own mess. Place rubbish in the bin. Compliment others – saying one kind thing can make someone else's day and in turn make you happy too.
- Take responsibility for your actions. Everybody can make a mistake. If you are honest then we can help you fix it.
- We want to see how brilliant you are – make it your business to collect as many positive points as you can. They can mean prizes!



Smile and enjoy every moment of your new life chapter!

Key Dates

Date	Event
September 24th 2025	School Photographs
October 7th 2025	Meet the Tutor
October 8th—November 10th 2025	Assessment Window
February 9th-20th 2026	Assessment Window
May 15th-18th 2026	Assessment Window
June 17th 2026	Parents' Evening

Daily Checklist

Night Before

- ☐ EASI checked and homework completed
- ☐ Check your school email for any important messages
- ☐ Timetable checked - PE Kit prepared if needed
- ☐ Uniform checked and prepared
- ☐ Shoes cleaned
- ☐ Packed lunch made (if needed) and snacks organised
- ☐ Equipment (full pencil case) and homework folder in bag
- ☐ 20 minutes of relaxation, such as reading, before bed

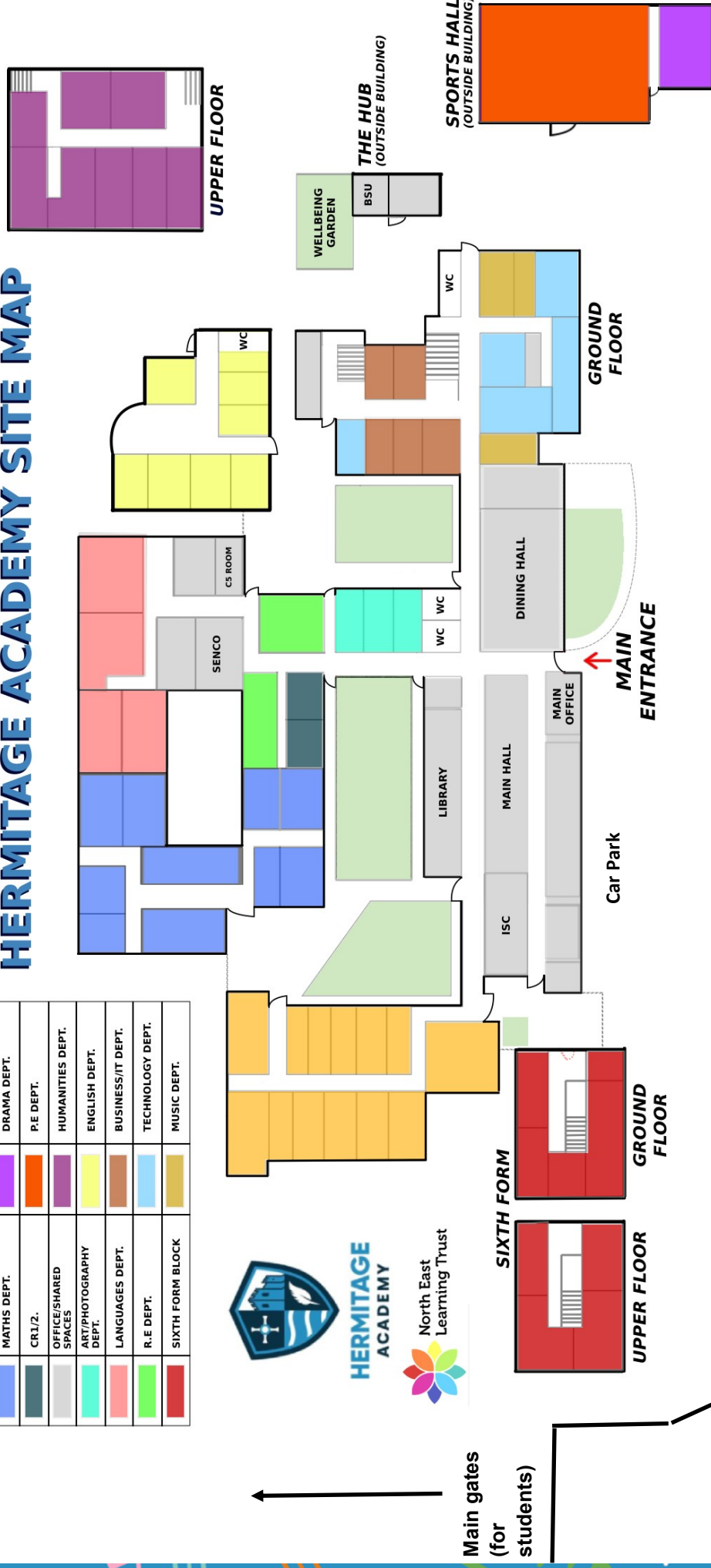
Morning Checks

- ☐ Uniform on
- ☐ Breakfast eaten
- ☐ Teeth brushed
- ☐ Packed lunch in bag
- ☐ Break time snack in bag
- ☐ Water bottle full and in bag
- ☐ Double check equipment (pencil case and homework folder) and PE kit in bag (If needed)
- ☐ Bus money safe in bag (if needed)
- ☐ House key and mobile phone in bag and switched off

Consider making your own personalised checklist that you can place on your fridge or bedroom wall, to help you to remember what to do each day and stay organised!

SCIENCE DEPT.	COMMUNAL GRASS
MATHS DEPT.	DRAMA DEPT.
CRJ/2.	P.E DEPT.
OFFICE/SHARED SPACES	HUMANITIES DEPT.
ART/PHOTOGRAPHY DEPT.	ENGLISH DEPT.
LANGUAGES DEPT.	BUSINESS/IT DEPT.
R.E DEPT.	TECHNOLOGY DEPT.
SIXTH FORM BLOCK	MUSIC DEPT.

HERMITAGE ACADEMY SITE MAP



HERMITAGE ACADEMY



North East Learning Trust

Main gates (for students)

Main gates (for vehicles)