

# TOYNBEE SCHOOL FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## **Will I be able to visit Toynbee before I start in September?**

In June you will have an Induction Day at Toynbee where you will get to take part in some lessons, meet some teachers and work in your new tutor group for the day. You will have some Upper School pupils to help you during this day. There will also be an information evening in June for you and your parents to attend where you will find out more information about the school; and meet key staff you will be working with.

## **What will happen on my first day at Toynbee?**

On your first day at Toynbee year 7 will be the only year group in the school (along with some year 11 pupils to help you). On your Induction Day we will tell you where you will meet on your first day. There will be Toynbee staff; helpers and signs to show you where to go so please don't worry. You will line up with your tutor group and your tutor.

## **Will I get lost?**

Lots of pupils worry about this when they move to Secondary School but as one of our current year 7s says: 'The school isn't as big as you expect it to be, and you get used to it really quickly'. You'll be given a tour of the school on Induction Day, and on your first day in September. You'll also have older pupils to help you and will have a map of the school. All the staff are really helpful and friendly so if you do get lost just ask.

All of the classroom doors are clearly labelled. The classroom doors will have the letter of the department followed by a number, for example S2 (Science room 2) E6 (English room 6).

## **Where do I go if I have a problem?**

You will have a tutor, Guidance Manager and Progress Director you can speak to if you have any problems or questions. You can also speak to any of your teachers, or any member of staff who will be happy to help you. You will also have peer mentors attached to your tutor group, and your friends will also be able to help you.

## **Is it easy to make friends?**

On your Induction Day and first day you will have time in your tutor group completing activities to get to know other pupils. These activities will help you to find other people you have things in common with. In all of your lessons you will be sat in a seating plan which also helps you to get to know more people. There are also lots of extra – curricular clubs you can join to meet more pupil.

### **What subjects will we study? Will they be hard?**

You will have lessons in English, Maths, Science, MFL, History, Geography, RS, PE, PSHCE, Technology, Computing, Art, Music and Drama. The work that you complete in your lessons will be appropriate for your ability. The work may be challenging, but achievable. If you are finding any subject difficult please speak to your teacher and they will be happy to help. You, and your parents will be given detailed information about the curriculum in September.

### **How much homework will I get?**

When you start in September, we will explain our homework policy to you and your parents. We know that lots of you worry about homework so for the first month you won't be set any homework while you settle into life at Toynbee. The Learning Support department run a homework club after school if you need any support with your homework.

### **What happens at break and lunch?**

At Toynbee we have a split timetable. This means that your break and lunchtimes are only with the Lower School (Years 7, 8 and 9). During this time you can play football, chat with your friends, eat your snacks and lunch. There are also break and lunch time clubs and the LRC is open if you want to do homework/read in there. At break and lunch you can either bring your own food in, or buy both hot and cold food from the canteen or the 'Pod'. The current year 7s say the food is 'delicious'. The canteen is cashless.

### **What extracurricular clubs can I join?**

At Toynbee we offer lots of extracurricular activities in different subjects before school, at break and lunch, and after school. Clubs include; Science Club, Art Club, Homework club, a variety of sports clubs like Football, Netball, Rugby and many more.

Extracurricular activities are a great way of meeting new people, improving your self-esteem, exploring new activities, try different things and see what you are passionate about. You can attend as many extracurricular activities as you like, and we would love to see you at as many as possible.

### **What sports do we do in PE?**

You will participate in a variety of sports throughout your time at Toynbee. These will include Football, Dance, Rugby, Basketball, Badminton, Netball, Tennis, Athletics, Rounders, Cricket, Gymnastics.

### **What rewards are there?**

In your lessons you will be awarded Achievement Points for working well and completing work to a good standard. You will also be awarded PROUD points for displaying any of the 5 core values of Personal Development; Participation, Respect, Opportunity, Unique and Determination. All pupils will aim to collect as many as they can throughout their school year, and they can be awarded by any member of staff at Toynbee. There are individual and tutor group prizes for the highest number of achievement points and PROUD points. We also

recognise your achievements and effort by contacting home, and inviting you to a range of reward/celebration activities.

### **Do I have to wear uniform?**

Yes, you will be required to wear the Toynbee school uniform and the Toynbee PE kit. More information about this can be found on the website.

### **What if I lose my belongings?**

Make sure that all your belongings are clearly labelled with your name and tutor group. If you do misplace something, ask a friend or member of staff to help you and if you still can't find it, you can go to lost property which is near reception and speak to Matron.

### **Can I use my mobile phone in school?**

Toynbee has a '**no mobile phone**' policy. Mobile phones should be switched off and in your bag at all times whilst you are in school. They should not be seen or heard throughout the school day.