

Year 6 in to Year 7 Transition: Frequently Asked Questions for students and Parents/Carers

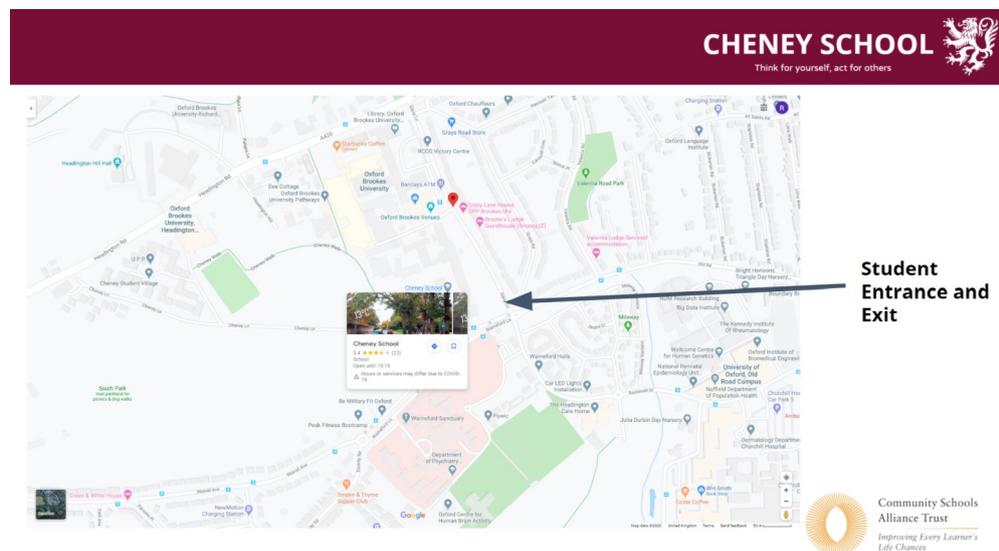
How long is the school day? The school day starts at 8:25am and ends at 3:10pm. The gates to the school open at 8am. Breakfast is available in the canteen.

How long are lessons? All lessons are one hour long.

How many lessons are there? There are five lessons each day. Cheney School has a two-week timetable so you might not have the same lessons both days in the cycle but you will get used to the A and B week timetable.

| School Timings | |
|--|------------------|
| Tutor Time | 8:40 – 8:55 am |
| Transition to lesson means time to move to the next lesson | 8:55-9:00 am |
| P1 | 9:00-10:00 am |
| Break for all year groups but Y7 go 10 minutes early. Year 7 have their own area to hang out in if they wish | 10:00 – 10:30 am |
| Period 2 | 10:30 - 11:30 am |
| Transition to lesson | 11:30 - 11:35 am |
| Period 3 | 11:35 - 12:35 pm |
| Lunch for all year groups but Y7 go 10 minutes early. Year 7 have their own area to hang out in if they wish | 12:35 - 1:05 pm |
| Period 4 | 1:05 -2:05 pm |
| Transition to lesson | 2:05- 2:10 pm |
| Period 5 | 2:10 – 2.45 pm |

Which way do I come into school? You come into the entrance by Oxford Brookes off Gipsy Lane.



[Follow this link to a more detailed map](#)

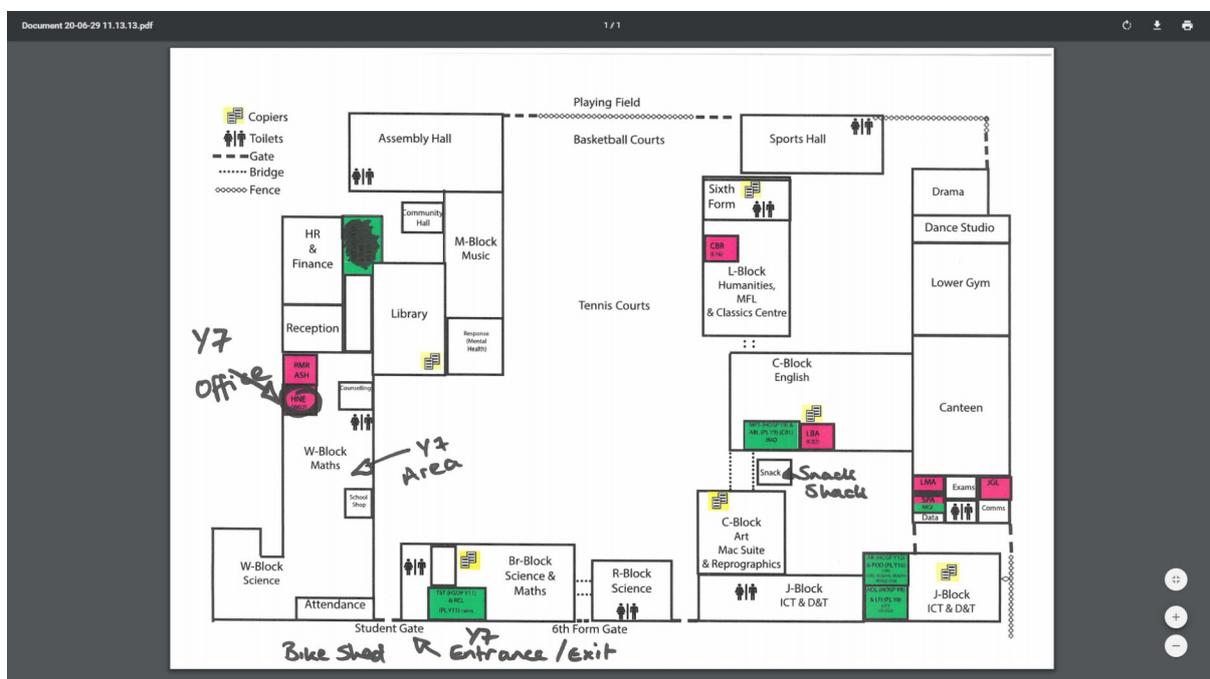
Street view of the entrance can be found following this link

<https://goo.gl/maps/GK9EFJaK1QniWyWf7>

[Follow link to video of entrance and exit to school](#)

Can I ride my bike to school? You can ride your bike to school. There is a bike shed to put them in by the students' entrance. Please make sure you bring your own bike lock to secure your bike in the bike shed. No liability will be accepted by the school for a bike left in the bike shed. All bikes left there are left at the owners risk. [Follow link to video about the bike shed](#)

How will I find my way around Cheney School? When starting at the school all young people are given a map, however you will find very quickly that you start to remember your way around. The buildings are all listed.



There are always staff on duty in bright yellow jackets to help you!

What lessons will I have at Cheney School? Many of the lessons that you've had at primary school will be continued, such as Maths, English and Science. You will also do Humanities, which is Geography, History and Religious Studies. You will also do Art, Drama, ICT, Music, Design Technology, Textiles, Food Technology and a Language or have additional literacy support.

| Subjects | Approximate teaching hours per week |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| English Mathematics Science | 4 4 2- 3 |
| French or literacy support | 2 |
| Product design / Textiles / Food technology Computing | 2 1 |
| Religious education History Geography | 1 1-2 1- 2 |
| Music Drama Art | 1 1 1 |
| Physical education | 2 |

What are the older students like? A number of older students are Student Ambassadors. You will have seen that the Sixth form leadership team produced a video for you and Gabrielle Crook ([click this link to view](#)) is your year team link.



How long is break and lunchtime? Break and lunchtimes are both 30 minutes long. Year 7 will go to break and lunchtimes 10 minutes before the rest of the school. This allows you to be served before the other year groups enter the canteen. Packed lunches and snacks can be brought into school from home. We hope that you will eat both at break and lunch time to keep fueled for the day. This may not seem like a long time but you will get used to the systems at school.

What kind of food is there in the canteen? The canteen serves a wide variety of food catering for everyone. This includes paninis and pasta, there are also baguettes, sandwiches, other hot meal choices, and desserts such as muffins and fruit. See the link for more information <https://www.cheney.oxon.sch.uk/catering/>

Follow link to video <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Xl21tyrXyvKLX2zGC7XlNjNVipXB9EWD/view?usp=sharing>

Sample menu

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| | <p>Monday</p> <p>Mexican Chicken (H) Pasta Pesto (H)(V)</p> <p>Tuesday</p> <p>Chicken Korma (H)(GF) Chicken Tikka masala (H)(GF) Paneer & Mushroom Madras(H)(V)(GF)</p> <p>Wednesday</p> <p>Southern Style Chicken (H) Vegan Pops (H)(Vegan)</p> <p>Thursday</p> <p>Chicken Kiev Macaroni Cheese (H)(V)</p> <p>Friday</p> <p>Battered Cod (H) Spring Rolls (H)(Vegan)</p> <p>(H) Halal (v) Vegetarian (GF) Gluten Free – Some of the accompaniments may not be gluten free , Please ask catering staff for gluten free options</p> | |
|--|---|--|

How do I pay for my lunch? You use your thumb print and this will be organised on your first day at Cheney. Our canteen is a cashless outlet and students can bring money into school to put it on their account via the two machines or alternatively parents/carers can transfer money to their accounts using Parent Pay. When you get up to the till you choose your food, put your thumb on the reader and the amount is deducted from your account. See the link for more information. Currently we are reviewing the use of thumb prints and are looking for a suitable alternative..

<https://www.cheney.oxon.sch.uk/catering/>

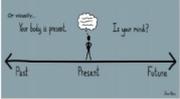
When do I find out who is going to be in my tutor group? A letter will come out in the final week of term introducing your tutor and the specific details of the transition days on Thursday 3rd and Friday 4th September.

Tutor Lessons



8:30 – 8:55am daily
There will be a year group assembly once a week in the Assembly Hall

Mindful Monday
settling for the week ahead



Topical Tuesday
an introduction to the weekly topic

Worldly Wednesday
an activity to broaden understanding of the topic and its implications to the local community and wider world

Thoughtful Thursday
a reflective activity about the implications of the idea or concept

Future Friday
an activity to take the concept or idea forward and apply it to self or the local community

One to One Tutoring



What is it?
A conversation between the student and tutor on a one to one basis about how the student is getting on at school.
Topics that could be discussed include: how they are adapting to Secondary school life, extra curricular activities, goals for the term, academic progress, making good choices and aspirations.

When does it happen?
During the tutor lesson.

Why is it important?
To develop the student-tutor relationship and build a school community that is based on: respect, kindness, support, challenge and mentoring.

How often will it happen?
At least once per full term, but this could be more depending on the needs of the student.





- Our core value at Cheney is **RESPECT**
- We expect you to treat others as you wish to be treated and respect every member of the school community
- We celebrate and acknowledge students that demonstrate kindness



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Am I allowed to wear jewellery? The only jewellery permitted at Cheney is a watch and one earring in each ear. These must be small and discreet studs only. Follow link for more information <https://www.cheney.oxon.sch.uk/uniform/>

Am I allowed to wear my hair down? You may wear your hair down at Cheney but you should always have a hair tie with you for when you have practical lessons such as PE, Technology and Science. Follow link for more information <https://www.cheney.oxon.sch.uk/uniform/>

Can girls wear trousers/Skorts? Our uniform at Cheney is unisex and therefore girls can choose to wear trousers. Skorts are not part of the uniform policy. Heels are not suitable for school and should not be worn. Follow link for more information <https://www.cheney.oxon.sch.uk/uniform/>



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Think for yourself, act for others

Uniform Guidelines

Blazers

Compulsory for all and must be worn at all times. They may be removed with the permission of a member of staff.

Tops

Plain white polo shirt
Plain white collared shirt
Plain white reverse shirt

Jumpers/ Cardigans

These are optional and only may be worn under blazers. No hoodies or sweatshirts.

Hair

Should not be styled in unnatural hair colours.

Headwear

Black or white headscarf
No baseball caps.



Trousers

Tailored, straight black trousers. No chinos, jeans, leggings, jeggings or treggings.

Skirts

Black skirt worn no higher than 10cm above the knee. No bandage style skirts. Salwar Kameez in black only

Footwear

Black shoes or trainers only, with no colouring at all. This includes the sole.

Jewellery

Plain and simple studs for ear or nose piercings. All jewellery including rings, chains etc. must be removed for PE lessons. Acrylic/Gel nails are not allowed

What do I need to bring on my first day? On your first day you will need to bring equipment from the equipment list (see below) and packed lunch or money to buy food at the canteen. You will NOT need your PE kit on the first day.

Resources, Equipment and Prepared for learning
REP



In each lesson you are expected to have a **READING BOOK, EQUIPMENT** and **WORKBOOK** on your desk.

This shows the teacher that you are **READY TO LEARN.**

- 2 Blue/Black Pens
- 2 Pencils
- 2 Highlighters
- 2 Purple Pens
- A Rubber
- A Sharpener
- A Ruler
- Your Maths Equipment/Calculator

You have to look smart, to think smart!

<http://www.cheney.oxon.sch.uk/Uniform>

What if I get lost on my way to lessons? Just ask someone. Whether that is a student or member of staff there are always many people to ask. They will help you. All staff can be identified by the lanyards that they wear around their neck and bright yellow jackets that they wear whilst on duty.

What if I get bullied at school? If a member of our community behaves in an inappropriate way to you it is really important that you tell somebody, whether that is a friend, parents/carers, your tutor, a teacher, a member of duty staff at break or lunchtime or a Head of Student Progress. You must tell somebody to enable them to deal with it for you. We will deal with the issue with you to make sure that everyone involved understands how we are expected to treat each other.

What happens if there is another Covid Spike? The school would follow the government advice and would run virtual lessons and set work. This would be done through the use of SMHK which all year 7 students will have access to in September.

What do I do if I'm not feeling very well? If you're feeling unwell during the school day you must speak to your pastoral lead, Ms Clear. If she feels that you need to go home she will contact your parents or carers.

[Link to video of Y7 area](#)

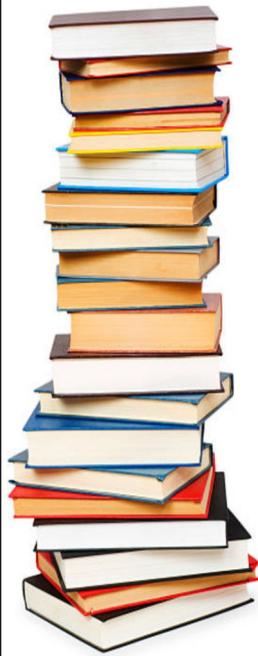


Ms Clear

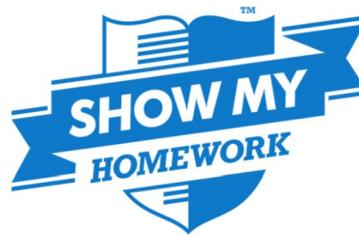


Mr Stacey

How much homework will I get? As long as we are back at school full time as normal, for the first two weeks of school you will not be given any homework. Then for the next two weeks you will be set only English, maths and science homework. Then after this time you will receive homework in all of your subjects. You will be shown how to access Show My Homework (SMHW) in tutor times. Your login details to SMHW will also be provided to you by your tutor. Don't worry about getting a detention for late homework for the first few weeks of school. You should spend one hour maximum on any homework.



Homework



Your Homework will be set online and it will be your responsibility to check it.

Your homework will be set on a website called *Show My Homework* and this will list the tasks you need to complete. You will receive logins for September.



Routines



Respect is our CORE VALUE

We expect you to treat others as they wish to be treated and respect every member of the school community.

We celebrate and acknowledge students that demonstrate kindness.

Homework is set online using a website called *Show My Homework*

You will receive logins in September.

No mobile phones should be used on the school site

Mobile phones should be switched off and in your bag during the day.

It may be confiscated if you have it out.

Don't worry about detentions. Your tutors and Head of Student Progress will work with you in the first weeks of school to help you understand our Respect for Learning policy. This will help you understand how you should behave at Cheney.

Will we be doing our SATS? There are no plans to take SATS exams when you start at Cheney school.

Absence protocols

In September we will be changing how you need to report absence. Follow link for more information <https://www.cheney.oxon.sch.uk/attendance-and-punctuality/>

Attendance and Punctuality

**As a school we ask students to aim for 100% attendance
95% is the minimum that will give you the best chance of success**

Being on time is **KEY** as first impressions always count.

Gates open at **8am** and you are expected to be at your tutor lesson classroom by **8:25am**.



Extra-curricular clubs and activities

How will clubs run? In September if it is not possible to run clubs across year groups we will review how we can do specific clubs for each year group. Activities on offer at change range from drama and creative arts performances such as Shrek to rowing, basketball, language and science clubs.

Opportunities



French Cafe



Book Slam



Pop-Up Art Exhibition



Celebration Evening



Lots of sports teams and clubs



Chick Hatching Project



Literacy Challenge - rewarded with World Cup Football



- Reading is a huge focus for year 7 through the Accelerated Reader programme.
- Mrs Fenton (and the library!) hosts regular reading lessons for the whole of year 7 and through this she gets to know the whole year group.
- Access to the year 7 office is through the library – Mrs Fenton is an important point of contact and help throughout the day.
- The library is a great place to do your homework or to read a book at lunch and break times.



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Please follow the link for more information <https://www.cheney.oxon.sch.uk/learning-resource-centre/>

Lockers

These will become available to year 7 after the October Half term. Due to the school closure we will need to leave the first term for our current year 7s to clear out their lockers and return their locks. To use a locker, a £10.00 deposit needs to be paid to the school shop where you will be issued your padlock and code for the year. If you cannot afford this deposit, don't worry, just speak with Ms Clear. Once the lock is returned at the end of the year, your money will be returned to you. More information will follow during the first week about where you can keep your belongings during the day.

Toilets

We expect you to use the toilets during break, lunch times or transition times. If you are desperate for the toilet during a lesson you will need to get a toilet pass from the teacher.

[Follow link to toilet video](#)

Changing for PE

Boys and girls have separate changing areas in the Sports Hall. You get changed at the start and end of your PE lessons.

Arriving and Leaving school

Year 7s will be dismissed 5 minutes earlier than the rest of the school so they can be the first out of the student gate.

Follow link to video about entrance and exit to school.

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1XHCFYfOy20EOnxR1oUIWIUARE_NAqLUh/view?usp=sharing

Travelling to and from school

During transition we will be teaching your children the following four rules:

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Think for yourself, act for others



1. At Cheney you are expected to make your own way to school - it is good for you and good for your planet.



2. At Cheney you are expected to bring your own reusable water bottle - as a school we're giving up single-use plastics.



3. At Cheney you are expected to dispose of your waste correctly. We believe in the 5 Rs: Refuse, Reduce, Reuse, Repurpose, Recycle.



4. Don't chew gum at Cheney. Chewing gum is not allowed at school: it is plastic, it does not biodegrade and damages the school environment.



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Did you know?

CHENEY SCHOOL
Think for yourself, act for others



Oxford is one of the most polluted cities in the UK. It has the same levels of pollution as Birmingham and Newcastle.



Air pollution is known to damage children's developing lungs but there is evidence to suggest it also harms children's ability to learn at school. It causes heart disease, lung disease and some cancers.

Pollution inside cars is:

- 3.5 times higher than for those walking
- 5 times higher than for those cycling
- 2.5 higher than for those on buses



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You can make a difference

- Please do not drive your children to school unless they have a specific need (in which case you can bring them into the school car park and drop them safely)
- Encourage your children to walk or cycle along the quietest routes to minimise their exposure to air pollution

Cheney is trying to help

- By setting up walking parties
- By running bicycle maintenance clubs
- By sharing useful information e.g. safer cycle route maps

We are glad of parental support, suggestions and questions

Please email the Environmental Impact Team at chseit@cheney.oxon.sch.uk



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Ask your parents/carers to join the PTA

Our PTA - Cheney Friends



All Cheney parents, carers and members of staff are automatically members of Cheney Friends (Cheney's PTA) and it's a great way of meeting other parents, keeping in touch with the school community and supporting the school

What we do:

- **hold regular meetings** to which all are very welcome - including an AGM in November with guest speakers
- **support school events** such as concerts & drama shows, selling refreshments to raise funds
- **organise fundraising, social & other events** eg quiz nights, a parent vs staff cricket match and election hustings
- **raise funds to support the school:** in recent years, these funds have bought a grand piano & sound system for the assembly hall, seating for the library, equipment for the DT department, rowing blades for Cheney Falcon Rowing Club, & much more!

If you'd like to get involved, or just learn more, please contact:

Claire Stevenson (Secretary): clast23@yahoo.com

or join our Yahoo group by emailing:

Cheneyfriends-subscribe@yahoogroups.co.uk



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If you need more information

Dr Coombs - SENCO rco@cheney.oxon.sch.uk

Mrs Hart - Head of Transition eha@cheney.oxon.sch.uk

Mr Stacey - Head of Student Progress Year 7 tst@cheney.oxon.sch.uk

Ms Clear - Pastoral Leader Year 7 rcl@cheney.oxon.sch.uk

Mrs Marsh - Family School Liaison Officer jma@cheney.oxon.sch.uk