

YEAR 7 TRANSITION 2026 FAQs



Step into Secondary at
Swindon Academy



Will my child's FSM transfer to Swindon Academy?

If you are currently FSM you need to re-apply. If you think you're eligible and don't currently receive them, you will need to apply.

Where do I buy the Uniform?

For logo items (blazer, tie, PE top) - Monkhouse School wear, 1B, Plaza, 21 Sanford St, Swindon SN1 1HE. Phone: 01793 520843.

Please note that the shop is shut Tuesdays, Fridays and Sundays.

<https://www.monkhouse.com/school/swindon-academy-urn-135364>

Other uniform items - shops of your choice.

What Equipment will they need?

They will need to bring everyday a large clear pencil case that contains the following items;

Clear Pencil Case

Pencil Eraser and Sharpener

Black Pen

Green Pen

1 30cm Clear Plastic Ruler

1 highlighter

Scientific Calculator

(a multi-colour click pen may be used instead of a single black and green pen)

Students will be issued with a resource pack containing a whiteboard, black drywipe marker pen, a whiteboard rubber and a glue stick. They will need to bring this every day.

What College will they be in?

Students will be told on the transition day - Wednesday 1st July

When is transition day?

Wednesday 1st July 9.00am - 3.00pm (wear primary uniform and bring a packed lunch).

When is the first day of term?

Thursday 3rd September - First Day of Year 7. Gates open at 8.00am, school starts at 8.20am.

Will I be allowed in the building on the first day?

No. You are welcome to walk them to the gate but that's as far as you can go. There will be plenty of staff on duty to look after them.

Can I drive into the school car park to drop off and pick up?

We do not allow parents into the school car park. There are several places you can drop off and pick up near the school and your child can walk the rest the way.

Does my child need permission to stay for clubs / activities after school?

No. Students can sign up on E-praise and then attend, it will be their responsibility to tell you if they are staying after school for a club or sports fixture.

How do I communicate with school?

We communicate via E-praise (online system – App) which all Swindon Academy parents can access. Login is set up at the start of the school year, using the email you provided in your admission form. Access and instructions for E-praise are provided when each pupil starts school.

We will use E-praise as our primary form of contact to keep in touch. Parents with queries can message staff through E-praise.

Payment System?

We only accept cashless payments, and loading money onto your child's account is quick and easy. You can do this via our ParentPay online payment system. If your child is eligible for free school meals (FSM), please ensure you sign up for them.

Parents will receive an activation letter when they onboard at the school, with a reference to set up their ParentPay account. Families with more than one child at the Academy can merge their accounts.

What happens if my child gets a detention?

Students will sit their detention on the day it is set. It will be communicated via an E-praise notification.

Will my child be set homework?

Students receive prep in Bedrock, English, Maths, Science, Spanish, Sparx Reader, Geography and History, with each task taking a maximum of 1 hour to complete.

Students should aim to complete their weekly prep to ensure they make the very best progress in their lessons. Students will be rewarded for all prep completed through E-praise points.

What happens if my child forgets an item of uniform or equipment?

Students can borrow uniform from 8.00am - 8.17am. They will be expected to return it at the end of the day There is an equipment shop open from 8.00am – 8.17am everyday for students to purchase any stationary they may need.

When will they be allowed to go to the toilet?

Students are not allowed to leave lessons to go to the toilet, they have plenty of opportunity to go throughout the day. They can go at break and lunch and every lesson changeover.

Can they bring a mobile phone?

Students are permitted to bring mobile phones and electrical devices into school but do so at their own risk.

They are only allowed to use their phones at break and lunch times in the canteen and covered area outside. While students are in the building, we operate a See it, Hear it, Lose it policy. This also applies to lesson changeover where students may have to walk through outside areas of the school.

Most questions can be answered via our website where you will find our Parent Handbook and Uniform and Equipment Guide

[Essential Information for Parents | Parents | Secondary | Swindon Academy](#)