



Frequently Asked Questions

How is my child's House/ Tutor group decided?

Our House Leaders work very closely with colleagues at both Brewood & Penkridge Middle school to ensure students are placed into the best House/ Tutor group for them. Whilst we do not place students in tutor groups with friends, we will guarantee there are other students from their middle school in their new tutor group. We strongly believe that starting at Wolgarston gives students opportunities to develop new friendships.

<https://www.wolgarston.staffs.sch.uk/page/?title=The+House+System+%26amp%3B+Tutors&pid=42>

Can my child change their house/ tutor group?

It is highly unlikely that we will change anyone's tutor group, just remember that your child will only spend 20 minutes per day in this tutor group. We do ask the staff at both Middle schools to check that there are no issues with students they have been placed into a tutor group with.

Will I get any contact from my child's new tutor before September?

Yes, your child's new tutor will be in contact over the coming weeks to invite you and your child up to Wolgarston to have a meeting to run through lots of important information ahead of their start in September. As your child's tutor will be your first port of call for any issues it is really important that a strong relationship is started early.

What will my child study at Wolgarston?

Please follow this link to see the Curriculum Maps for each subject to see what our students will study.

<https://www.wolgarston.staffs.sch.uk/page/?title=Our+Curriculum&pid=20>

How are sets decided?

At the start of Y9 teaching groups for all subjects are mixed ability. Again, we will liaise with staff at both Middle schools to ensure the groups and a good fit.

Do you ability set students?

Yes, but only in Math's & Science. However, these groups will only be decided once our staff have had the chance to work with your child and make sure the sets are right. Up until that point students will be taught in mixed ability groups. All other subjects are taught to mixed ability groups up to the end of Y11.

How many lessons are there in a day?

We have six fifty-minute lessons per day.

<https://www.wolgarston.staffs.sch.uk/page/?title=The+School+Day&pid=38>

What time should my child get to school?

If your child makes their own way to school, we strongly recommend that they are on site at 8.45am. Students who use school transport will need to be at their bus stop in plenty of time to get their own bus. The bell for students to move to their first lesson goes at 8.53am.

How does my child buy food or drink at school?

We are a cashless school. All our students are given a Card that parents can update top up through ParentPay. Students must bring their dinner card with them to school every day. There will be a small charge for any students that need replacement cards. <https://www.wolgarston.staffs.sch.uk/page/?title=School+meals&pid=45>

What uniform will my child need?

Please see the attached uniform policy, please make sure you read it carefully and ensure your child's uniform meets our policy as the last thing we would want is for parents to waste their money unnecessarily.

<https://www.wolgarston.staffs.sch.uk/page/?title=Uniform&pid=74>

What PE Kit is required for my child?

Please follow this link to see what is required as part of our PE uniform. (Please remember to put your child's name in all their PE kit)

<https://www.wolgarston.staffs.sch.uk/page/?title=Uniform&pid=74>

What equipment will my child need for school?

All students should have black pens, pencil, ruler, rubber, calculator within a pencil case with them for EVERY school day. Every student should also have a suitable school bag with them every day to carry all of their equipment and books.

Who do I need to speak to if I have any questions about SEND?

Mrs Weston is our SENCo (k-weston@penkvalley.co.uk), she is the best person to get in contact with to answer any questions or queries about support for students with SEND.

Who do I need to contact if I have a safeguarding concern?

Please contact school reception and ask to speak to a member of our safeguarding team. Our Safeguarding team consists of Mr. McCosh (Deputy Headteacher), Mrs Watson (Inclusion Manager), Mrs Botton & Miss Frith. <https://www.wolgarston.staffs.sch.uk/page/?title=Safeguarding&pid=27>

How do I communicate with school if there is an issue?

Primarily through the ClassCharts Parent App. (We will send details on how to log in to your parent account upon your child's start at Wolgarston) This is where all announcements and messages from school and teacher will come. <https://www.wolgarston.staffs.sch.uk/page/?title=Classcharts&pid=75>

However, if you need to speak to a member of staff urgently, we would ask that you call the school directly or email the school office (office@wolgarston.staffs.sch.uk)

<https://www.wolgarston.staffs.sch.uk/page/?title=Contact+Us&pid=8>

How often should I check ClassCharts?

First of all, make sure you have notifications turned on for the ClassCharts App. We strongly recommend you check your child's ClassCharts account daily.

How do I report absences?

Please report all absences through the tab on the ClassCharts App- you can also upload evidence of medical appointments/ absences through the app.

<https://www.wolgarston.staffs.sch.uk/page/?title=Attendance+%26amp%3B+Absence+information&pid=28>

How does it work with school buses?

If you receive transport provided by the local authority, they will send your child's pass and details of their pickup times over the course of the summer. If you will be using transport provided by the Penk Valley

Academy Trust, please contact Penk Valley with any questions you may have.

<https://www.wolgarston.staffs.sch.uk/page/?title=Transport&pid=41>

Where can I find the term dates?

<https://www.wolgarston.staffs.sch.uk/page/?title=Attendance+%26amp%3B+Absence+information&pid=28>

Where do I find copies of school policies?

All our policies can be found using the link below, but please be aware that there are a few minor tweaks to some of the policies ahead of September.

<https://www.wolgarston.staffs.sch.uk/page/?title=Key+Information+%26amp%3B+Policies&pid=61>

Do Wolgarston post on Social Media?

Yes, Wolgarston has a big presence on social media, please take a look...

Instagram: @wogarstonhigh

Facebook: @WolgarstonHigh