



# Live Induction Event

## Q&A

### Q1. I joined late, did I miss anything?

You can find a recording of the Live event [here](#).

### Q2. What happens if you lose your prep diary?

Your prep diary is an important piece of school equipment, you should make every effort to look after it well. If you do lose your prep diary, please let your tutor known.

### Q3. How many lessons in a day do we have?

You will have six lessons Monday to Friday, and four lessons on Saturday morning.

### Q4. Does everybody have school lunch? What's the food like?

Yes, all pupils have lunch in the Dining Hall. You do not need to bring lunch with you. The food is great! You can see some of our menus [here](#).

### Q5. In PE, what type of things do we do?

You will have two hours of Physical Education and two hours in a Games Afternoon. You will do a number of sports, depending on the time of year. You can expect to try netball, football, rugby, hockey, swimming, tennis, cricket, athletics – and lots more.

### Q6. Do you also have a drama club?

Yes! You can have a look at the types of clubs we have [here](#).

### Q7. How do you get detentions? Would you get a detention for prep being a day late?

We want our pupils to succeed and do well. We want you to focus on trying your best to get things right, from the very start. You should always hand in your prep on time and follow school rules, that way you don't even have to think about detention!

### Q8. When do we need to wear PE kit?

You will need to wear PE kit to your Games Afternoon lessons and PE lessons. There may be some other activities, where you may get mucky or sweaty, where we will ask you to wear PE kit. Your parents will be told in advance if this is the case.

### Q9. When do we find out which boarding house we will be in and who our tutor will be?

Your parents will be informed of your boarding house in July, and you will find out your tutor in the new academic year in September.

**Q10. Where do we buy school uniform?**

You can buy school uniform locally; our supplier is SWOTS and they are located in Reigate. You can also order uniform and PE kit online. You can find shop links and uniform information [here](#).

**Q11. Will I get lost?**

Maybe! But that's okay. There will be lots of new pupils and lots of staff who can help you find your way. Plus, your prep diary (which you will be given when you arrive) will have a detailed map of the school. If you get lost, just ask someone or go to reception.

**Q12. Are there certain times you can visit the other houses that your friends are in?**

Yes, you can go to other boarding houses to meet your friends. Your house routines and timings will be explained to you by your Head of House when you arrive, but there will be lots of opportunities for you to see your friends.

**Q13. What are the pencil case essentials?**

Bring with you a couple of pencils, a few pens (black and/or blue are best), ruler, rubber, sharpener, colouring pencils, felt tips, and a glue stick. You will need a calculator as well - we recommend the Casio FX 85GTX or Casio FX 991EX.

**Q14. Are we allowed to bring a phone?**

You can bring your phone to school, but you can't use it during the school day or during co-curricular activities. For Flexi Boarders, if you bring your mobile to school, you must hand it in to your boarding house at the start of the day. You can collect it at the end of the day when you are about to leave. All houses have secure storage for this.

Boarders also can't have their phones during the day. Pupils in Year 7 can have access to phones after prep. For boarders, their phones will be collected in by a member of their boarding house team before pupils' bed time.

**Q15. Can you bring tuck to school?**

In Senior School, yes, you can. However, there will be plenty for you to eat. Breakfast, lunch and dinner will be provided for you in the Dining Hall, and there will be snacks in your boarding house. Both the Dining Hall and the boarding houses are nut free and you can't bring anything that may contain nuts, so that you and your friends are safe. Your Head of House will monitor this.

**Q16. Do rucksacks have to be a dark colour?**

No. However, your school bag should be appropriate for school. Make sure that your school bag is big enough that you can comfortably keep all your books and equipment safe, and that it doesn't hurt your back or shoulders.

**Q17. Will we be in a dorm with older kids like Year 11s and Year 13s?**

No. Although you will share a boarding house with older pupils, you will share dorms with pupils your age.

**Q18. Are you finally opening the school the 19th of August?**

After the summer break, School will re-open on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September for boarders. The term will start on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September for all pupils. We will be putting in place a two-week quarantine for overseas boarders who require this. More information [here](#).

**Q19. What do we answer the register with?**

If you have a male teacher, you answer the register with *sir*. For female teachers, you answer with *ma'am* (rhymes with ham).

**Q20. What do we do on the weekends?**

Saturday afternoon and Sunday are rest days. Boarders can relax with friends in their boarding house or around the school site. Some pupils may go to Redhill town centre on Saturday afternoons (with parent permission), or you may go on a trip. Our Boarders Trip Programme always has a lot on, such as Gatton movie night; trips to the theatre, museums, or to London. It changes every week. Currently we are not allowed to run school trips due to the ongoing situation, but we will hopefully be able to run trips soon when government guidelines change.

**Q21. When can we reserve clubs?**

At the start of term. You will be given log in details and then you can select which clubs you want to do. We suggest you do at least three in Year 7.

**Q22. Why did we get a keyring in the post?**

Just because we thought you might like it! The keyring has your name on it, so you can attach it to your school bag or to your keys so you don't lose them. And if you do, we can then get your items back to you quicker if they have your name on it (all your possessions and uniform, including shoes, should have your name).

**Q23. With your tutor group, is it a mix of boys and girls?**

Yes. All tutor groups have boys and girls.

**Q24. Lots of local secondary schools are saying not to wear blazers as part of uniform as they are not able to be changed daily (to reduce Covid transmission). Will blazers still be required at RAAS in September?**

At the moment, pupils are not required to wear a blazer. We will review whether blazers will be required closer to September – this will very much depend on government guidelines at the time. We will inform parents in advance before the start of term.

**Q25. How many people will be together in a dorm?**

We have dorms of different sizes. Usually boarders will share dorms with two or three friends.

**Q26. What do you do in between lessons?**

There isn't much time in between lessons. You will have a few minutes to get from one lesson to the other. During break time and lunch time, you can spend time in your boarding house, or if the weather allows it, playing outside.

**Q27. Do you take bullying seriously?**

Absolutely. We do not tolerate bullying. You can find out more in [this](#) YouTube video.

**Q28. Are you allowed to decorate your locker?**

Pupils can decorate their locker. Any decorations need to be respectful and discrete. But remember, it might not be your locker next year, so anything you decorate it with needs to be easily removable. You will want to make sure it's nice for the next person who may have it.

**Q29. What time as a flexi boarder would a student be picked up each evening? 6.20pm onwards?**

Year 7 Flexi Boarders can be picked up anytime from 3.35pm (if they do not have a club that evening) until 7.30pm.

**Q30. When will we be able to go to scuba diving?**

You can go scuba diving if you join the club (always good to keep in mind that this is a very popular club and places are limited). Clubs usually start in the second week of term.

**Q31. Is there a girls' Basketball team?**

Yes, there is!

**Q32. What if I don't like rugby and football?**

Rugby and football are part of the curriculum, so you will have to take part in some rugby and football games and training. However, there is lot of other sport to try in school and in the co-curriculum programme. If you don't like football and rugby, then don't worry. There will be lots of other sport to get involved with!

**Q33. Do girls have to wear skirts or can we wear trousers?**

We have a gender-neutral uniform. Girls can wear trousers or skirts.

**Q34. Where is registration or does it vary?**

You will have registration in your tutor room. This may vary sometimes but you will usually have one room that you go to every morning.

**Q35. What will we need for PE and PE games?**

The list of PE kit you will need can be found [here](#). For rugby and hockey, you will need gum shields, and for football, you will need shin pads and football boots.

**Q36. How do you get put into sets in certain lessons?**

There is lots of information about sets [here](#).

**Q37. What time will dinner be?**

Dinner will be between 5.20-6.25pm, depending on your boarding house.

**Q38. How much work is usually set every day?**

The amount of prep you get will vary. For subjects like English and Maths, you will get an hour of prep per week. For other subjects, like History or Geography, you will get half an hour of prep per week.

**Q39. How long are the lessons?**

Lessons are 50 minutes during the week and a bit shorter on Saturdays. For some subjects, you may have double periods, such as your Games Afternoon.

**Q40. What time do we go to bed?**

Bedtime for Year 7 pupils is 8.45pm and lights out by 9.15pm.

**Q41. How is the school dealing with the Coronavirus?**

You can see our response and check our FAQs on this subject [here](#).

**Q42. Do we have to board for those nights or is it optional?**

Flexi Boarders are expected to board 7-10 nights per year. The nights you board are flexible. We have a booking system where parents can select their child's boarding nights. Log in details for this will be sent to parents by the Boarding team at the start of the new term.