



## **CATSHILL MIDDLE SCHOOL TRANSITION - FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

**These were the most frequently asked questions from New Starters.**

### **How will Transition days work?**

Provisional September plan (subject to change by the DFE, Worcestershire Childrens First or Catshill Middle School)

**Wednesday 2nd September** - Transition Day

**(FOR YEAR 5 ONLY AND ANY OTHER NEW STARTERS IN OTHER YEAR GROUPS)**

**Thursday 3rd September and Friday 4th September** - All Year groups in school.

### **How many year 5 classes are there? Who will be my teacher?**

There are 3 classes in Year 5. The teachers are Mrs Barton, Miss Woodward and Mr Hewitt (Pastoral leader Key Stage 2). You will be introduced to your teacher on your induction day in September. (You can see their faces on the welcome video)

### **What do I need to bring to school with me?**

Yourself is number one. Every day you will require a pen, pencil, rubber, ruler and pencil sharpener in a clear pencil case. Also, bring a clear water bottle (that doesn't leak) for water that can be filled from water fountains around school . On two days a week you will require P.E. kit. You will be informed which days in September.

### **Do we have lockers?**

There is no locker system in school but we have cloakrooms (monitored by CCTV) in school and pupils are encouraged not to bring valuable items into school. Pupils will carry bags around from lesson to lesson.

No mobile phones (due to Covid restrictions), leave them at home.

### **Do the older children help the younger children when they first start to understand where to go in school?**

We have a peer mentoring system in school to allow children to talk with other pupils about concerns and we operate a prefect system for pupils who will assist other pupils. Everyone at Catshill is here to help.

### **Will I be in a class with some of my friends?**

Classes have been determined through discussions with first and middle school teachers. If we have concerns in September after induction we will be happy to discuss the situation.



## Currently we have missed a full 1/2 term of education being at home, how are Catshill firstly going to catch up with the missed curriculum and secondly ensure we don't fall behind on year 5 curriculum?

We are currently putting catch up sessions in place for September. These will be called recovery intervention (45 minute slots from 3.30-4.15). We are in discussions regarding areas of the curriculum that have not been covered at first school and areas required for catch up.

## What subjects will we be learning in year 5 ?

Pupils will be taught the full range of subjects in the national curriculum and will be taught by subject specialists. E.g. Science in the laboratory, Art and DT in specialist areas.

## Do you have the same class groups for registration and all lessons or do you have a registration group then different class groups for lessons?

Most subjects will be taught in class groups except for English and Maths which will be taught in sets. We are not sure what this will look like in September as the COVID situation could change.

## What is the dinner menu like?

We have 3 options at dinnertime. 1) Bring your own packed lunch 2) Purchase a hot meal 3) Purchase a sandwich, fruit and biscuit. Lunches are usually eaten in the hall. More information is available on the school website.

<https://www.catshill-middle.worcs.sch.uk/parental-information/catering-information>

## How many playgrounds are there?

We have 2 playgrounds, one for Key Stage 2 (Years 5 and 6) and one for Key Stage 3 (Years 7 and 8). The field is also used on a rota system in good weather.

## After school activities and trips.

This section will depend upon restrictions that are in place in September.

Last year clubs included sports (rugby, football, netball, dance, badminton, gymnastics, hockey), Art club, Music clubs and tuition, Drama, Choirs and a language club. Pupils also attended a transition team building day at Blackwell Adventure. This took place for all pupils after a month in school. Regarding clubs, we are happy to source coaches depending on demand for an activity. Music lessons are coordinated in school depending on need.

## What does a typical day look like i.e. break times, lesson times, end of day etc.?

The School Day	
Pupils arrive by:	8.40am
Registration:	8.45am
Period 1:	8.55am
Period 2:	9.50am
Break:	10.45am
Period 3:	11.00am
Period 4:	11.55am
Lunch:	12.50pm
Reading Time and Life Skills:	1.30pm
Period 5:	2.05pm
Assembly/Form Time	3.00pm
End of School:	3.20pm

At Catshill Middle School we aspire that all children will be in one of the following groups:

- 100% attender - always rewarded
- Good attender - always recognised
- Improved attender - always encouraged

'In and on time for quarter to nine'



### Will there be a map to know how to find each classroom?


On induction days in September you will be shown around the school and given a map to help you. You can always ask an adult or another pupil the way and I'm sure they will be happy to help you. At first the building looks large but you will soon learn where everything is.

### Can you advise of how we find out about the school bus which I believe runs from Lickey End?

**PUBLIC BUS**

There is a public bus that runs from Lickey End to Catshill. This service is run by MRD Travel who can be contacted on 01527 875592. The bus leaves Lickey End First School at 8.30am every morning and on the return journey leaves Catshill Middle School at 3.25pm every afternoon. The cost is £1.00 for a single ticket, £1.80 for a return ticket or £8.00 for a weekly return ticket. If you would like to use this service please contact MRD Travel so they are aware of numbers.

Pupils will be asked to sign a code of conduct if they use the bus. Any other queries should be forwarded to MRD Travel and not the school.



### We are looking to buy a laptop, what will they be learning to take home to know what type of software will help?

All children will have a Google account to use in school and for Home Learning. We would suggest a Chromebook would be suitable for work. (Any computer with a browser would also be suitable)

### My child has a medical condition?

We have information passed to us re childrens medical conditions but if you would like to speak more to us you can contact Mrs Trigg our first aid coordinator. [spt8@catshill-middle.worcs.sch.uk](mailto:spt8@catshill-middle.worcs.sch.uk)

### What uniform do I require?

A list of uniform you will require is also in the prospectus.

**DRESS CODE**

**Uniform Stockists**  
 School Days of Bromsgrove, 15 Church Street, Bromsgrove, B61 8DD, 01527 757439  
 S & H Schoolwear and Sports, 1 Church Street, Bromsgrove, B61 8DD, 01527 874885

**Clothing List**

	<b>GIRLS</b>	<b>BOYS</b>
Top	Green V-neck Jumper/Cardigan	Green V-Neck Jumper
Shirt	White Blouse	White Shirt
Tie	Clip-On School Tie	Clip-On School Tie
Skirt/Trousers	Grey/Black Skirt/Trousers (made from non stretchy material)	Grey/Black Trousers (not jean type)
Socks	White Socks, Black/Beige Tights	Grey/Black Socks
Shoes	Plain Black (low heeled) (not ballerina pumps or sling backs)	Black with no bold logo (No boots or trainers)

*A maximum of one plain stud in each ear is permitted*

**PE KIT (UNISEX)**

White Polo Shirt	Green Rugby Shirt with yellow band
Black Shorts	Long Green Socks
Trainers	Football Boots and Shin Pads






### **If my child struggles to settle in their new setting, what does the school propose to do to help?**

Hopefully this will not be the case but if so we would encourage you to contact your child's class teacher in the first case to see how we may be able to solve the issue. Please phone or email the school office. (Office@catshill-middle.worcs.sch.uk) We will also use epraise to communicate with you.

### **Is there a place you can go or someone older than you that you can talk to if you feel worried or are being bullied?**

We hope this will not happen but if you have concerns please contact your child's class teacher. We also run a peer mentoring club run by pupils to help other pupils discuss their worries.

### **After school care. Is there any available?**

The Hangout Club Pre & Post School Care for children @ Catshill contact thehangoutltd.catshill@gmail.com or to enquire call Tina 0795010272 or Stacey 0795010996, Main Club number during term time - 07985 403810

### **How do you cater for children with additional needs?**

Catshill Middle School and first schools have had discussions re pupils and their needs. Our SENDCO (Mrs Nesbitt) has discussed individual pupils with first schools. If you require further discussion please contact Mrs Nesbitt pjn15@catshill-middle.worcs.sch.uk

### **How much homework will we receive?**

Homework will be set using epraise. A homework schedule will be shared with children in September.

### **Epraise at Catshill Middle School**

We will be using epraise to communicate with you about a variety of things once your child starts in September. Homework/Home Learning, Parent/Carer evenings, Clubs, Housepoints and Demerits, School information, Messages and Attendance are all contained in one place.

[www.epraise.co.uk](http://www.epraise.co.uk)

The iOS and Android apps can be downloaded now from the App/Google Play stores. Children will be issued their individual details once they start at the school so they can log in. Parents/Carers will also be able to access the epraise accounts.