

Welcome to Horizon

School ready; Work ready; Life ready

Class of 2031



WELCOME TO HORIZON

2

Dear Parent/Carer,

We are delighted to be able to welcome you to Horizon Community College. We are looking forward to working closely with all our new students and their families over the next few months to ensure the transition from primary to secondary education is smooth, positive and exciting.

The move to secondary school is one of the most significant events in a young person's life, one that stirs excitement and anticipation. Now that you've chosen Horizon Community College it is our aim to ensure that this transition is as smooth as possible. This means that upon starting with us, your son/daughter is ready to 'hit the ground running' and embrace the many opportunities that our college offers.

This month our transition staff will be busy meeting primary school teachers discussing the needs of each student, to ensure they have the best start possible to Year 7. More importantly, staff will be meeting Year 6 students between now and July; this is so children can ask questions to help ensure they feel prepared for the change they are about to face.

We are looking forward to meeting you and your child and working with you and them in the future.

Mrs C Huddart
Principal



Mrs C Huddart
Principal

Dear Class of 2031,

A very warm welcome to Horizon Community College. I am very excited that you will be joining the Horizon family from September and hope you are too! Your time in Year 7 represents a time of great promise and opportunity and is your first step on a new learning journey.

Your first year will form the foundation for all that you will achieve in school. At Horizon, our aim is to ensure you are school ready, work ready and life ready.

We want you to enjoy your time with us. We want you to feel inspired and passionate about your learning. We also want you to feel happy and successful. I recognise that for many of you this will be both an exciting but also anxious time and want to reassure you that we are all here to help you make the transition from primary school to secondary school as stress free as possible.

Your pastoral team, form tutor and teachers are just some of the key people at school who will be with you every step of the way; helping you to understand how the College's core values underpin and maximise your opportunity for success.

This transition handbook will help you understand the culture and values of Horizon Community College and what we expect from you each and every day. There is a wealth of information for you to read through so that you can start positively with us in September.

We look forward to getting to know you and working with you to ensure that your time with us is a happy and settled one.

Miss L Sheldon
Assistant Principal:
Head of Lower School



Miss L Sheldon
Assistant Principal:
Head of Lower School

WHAT DOES THE YEAR 7 DAY LOOK LIKE?

All students enter the building through the side gate at the front of college from 8am. You follow the path around the building to the student entrance. Here, every morning the Year 7 team will meet you to check you are smart and organised for the day ahead.

You can then visit the college canteen where you can have breakfast with your friends. We have free items for all students – toast, bagel, cereal – or you can buy many other items like pancakes, bacon sandwiches and many more delicious items!

On your first day at Horizon, you will be given a timetable which tells you which lesson you have, when and where. Please don't worry about finding rooms – there are always lots of staff to help you find your way.

THE YEAR 7 DAY FOLLOWS THE TIMETABLE BELOW:

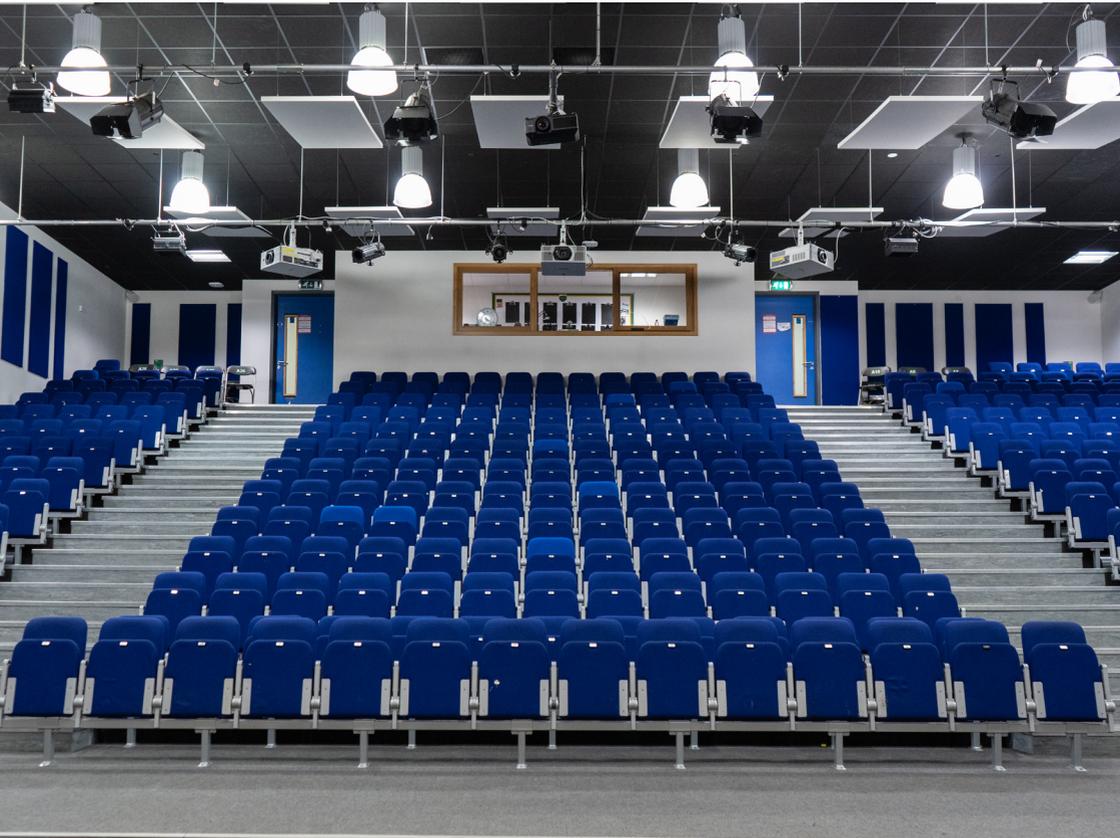
8am - 8:25am	Canteen is open for breakfast from 8am to 8:25am
8:30am	Year 7 day commences
8:30am - 8:50am	Tutor Time – every day commences with 20 minutes with your form tutor.
8:50am - 9:55am	Lesson one – 65 minutes
9:55am - 10:55am	Lesson two – 60 minutes
10:55am - 11:15am	BREAK – 20 minutes
11:15am - 12:20pm	Lesson three – 65 minutes
12:20 - 12:50pm	Lesson four – 30 minutes
12:50 - 1:25pm	Lunch (Year 7 Only)
1:25pm - 1:55pm	Lesson four – 30 minutes
1:55pm - 3:00pm	Lesson five – 65 minutes
3pm - 4pm	Enrichment Activities – Optional (but definitely recommended!)

WHAT IS FORM TIME AND WHAT DO WE DO?

5

Form time is the start of every day, and a great way to form new friendships. Your tutor will take your register, check you are ready for the day ahead and then lead on various activities such as Votes For Schools and the weekly student bulletin. Your tutor will also update you weekly on your attendance, achievement points and behaviour points.

We will also have a weekly assembly in the theatre where the whole year group comes together to discuss many topical areas such as Mental Health Awareness, Anti Bullying, LGBT+ Awareness and many others. We will also celebrate your successes in lessons every half term and your attendance.



WHO WILL BE IN MY FORM?

There will be 390 students in Year 7 which will split into 13 forms.

These forms are a mix of students from different primary schools. I do not ask for friendship groups, but I can assure you there will be at least one familiar face from your current primary school, (wherever possible).

Making new friends is a huge part of joining Horizon – there are so many students in Year 7 – everyone makes new friends, and if you are struggling, we are here to help you.

Just remember everyone is feeling the same, give it time and keep smiling.



WHAT LESSONS WILL I STUDY IN YEAR 7?

At Horizon we believe it is so important that you have experience of as many subjects as possible from Y7 through to Y9 (Key Stage 3). Once in Y9 you will then make choices as to which subjects you want to continue studying as GCSE or vocational courses in Y10 and Y11 (Key Stage 4).

Key Stage 3 is the first time you will study so many different subjects with specialist teachers, and also in specialist subject areas.

IN Y7 YOU WILL STUDY THE FOLLOWING SUBJECTS:



Mathematics



English



Science



Physical Education



Modern Foreign Language
(French or Spanish)



History



Geography



Art



Design Technology (Cooking & Nutrition, Textiles, Graphics, Resistant Materials)



Religious Education



Citizenship



Computing



Performing Arts
(Music, Drama, Dance)



WILL I RECEIVE HOME LEARNING?

YES!

At Horizon, we believe Home Learning is essential to help develop independent learners.

You will be set regular Home Learning in each of your subjects.

Sparx Maths

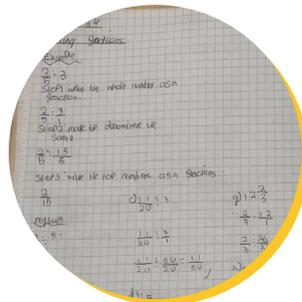
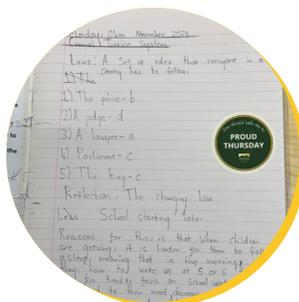
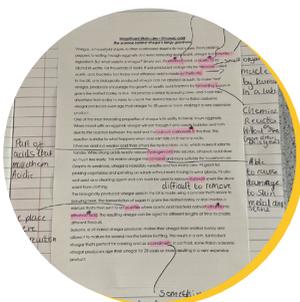


Microsoft Teams

Sparx Reader



In most subjects, students are asked to carry out retrieval practice using their knowledge organisers which we will provide you in September. You then complete a 'retrieval quiz' online through Microsoft Teams. The purpose of this is to help you securely embed knowledge you already have, so that you remember this the next time you use it. This helps to make learning within lessons even more purposeful for you, as important knowledge is therefore 'readily available' to be added to, supporting rapid progress.



HOW WILL I GET TO HORIZON?

9

You will need to plan how you are going to travel to Horizon to ensure you are here on time for the start of your day.

Many of you may walk, but there are also 2 buses which service Horizon or you may decide to come on your bike.

BUS

- There are two buses which pull into Horizon at the start and end of the day – the 478 and 479, you may have seen them around your home area. The timetables and bus routes are on the college website and will be updated ready for your start in September.
- We expect all students to abide by the bus company's rules whilst travelling on the bus. We want everyone to have a safe and pleasant journey to and from college.
- Why not have a look at our website now, to see where your nearest bus stop is.

BIKE

We encourage you to be active and healthy, so why not travel to Horizon by bike? We have secure bike shelters within the college grounds where you can bring your bike lock and fasten your bike up for the day. Please ensure you know the safest route to travel, Horizon is on a very busy road and we want all students to be safe.



WHAT WILL I WEAR?

We want you to wear the Horizon uniform with pride and we expect all students to wear it correctly.

You can find all the details about our uniform on the school website in the **Parents Hub** www.horizoncc.co.uk

KEY THINGS TO REMEMBER:

The skirt is knee length, the trousers are traditional in style – not skinny fit, not chino and we do not allow leggings.

Please look carefully at the guidance around shoes – we do check all uniform items every morning when you arrive. If your uniform is not as expected, we are happy to loan items while you purchase the correct ones if you are having trouble, so that you can attend lessons looking smart and ready for the day ahead.

We allow one ring, a watch and two pairs of small stud earrings – no other piercings are allowed and will have to be removed before the school day commences.

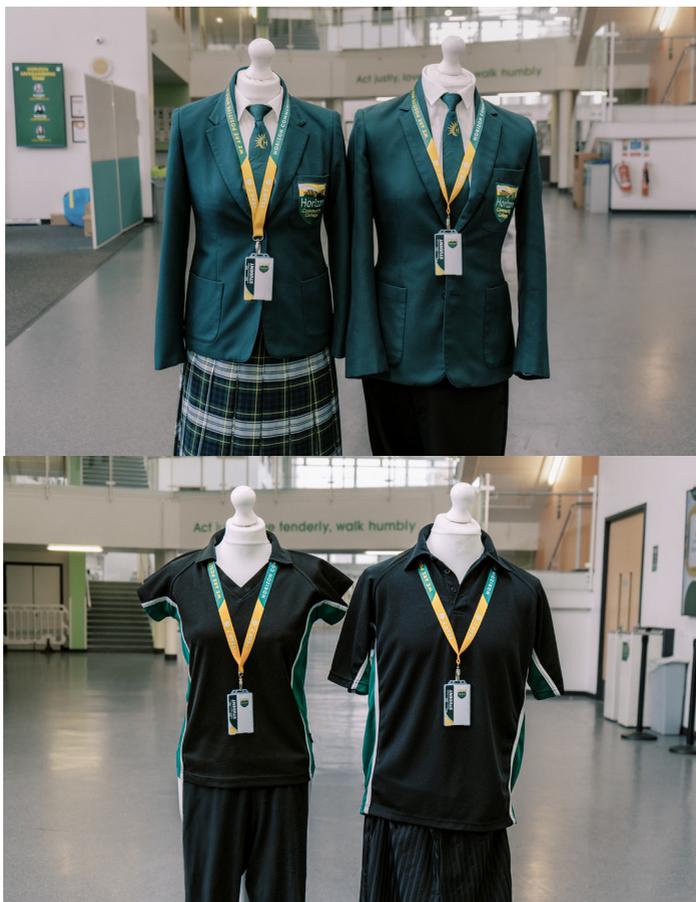
Makeup should be natural and discreet, and this is also the same for nails and lashes. We do not allow nail or lash extensions.

Hair colour should be a natural colour with no extreme styles.

We strongly recommend you read the information about our uniform on our website in the Parents Hub.

AN EXAMPLE OF OUR UNIFORM EXPECTATIONS:

Here is an example of our daily uniform and PE kit. We are very much looking forward to seeing you wearing it.



We also have a selection of pre-loved items available to purchase when you visit in June for the Transition Evening.

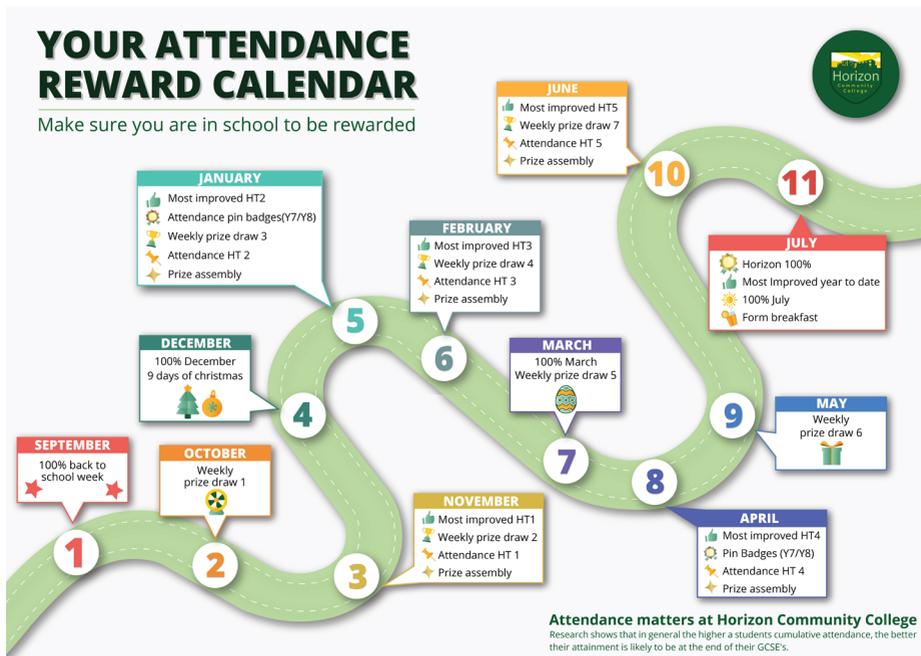
IS ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY IMPORTANT?

YES!

Attendance each and every school day is compulsory. If you are not in school then you must have a justifiable reason for your absence.

Parents/Carers should inform the school absence line on the first day of your absence via telephone and every day thereafter.

If you need to make an appointment, for example to see a GP, ask that this is made outside of the school day wherever possible.



PUNCTUALITY

Punctuality is an important part of self-discipline and is essential to good time management.

Always make sure that you are in the appropriate classroom no later than the times shown in the section on timing of the school day.

If you arrive late for school, five times, you will be given a detention on the next available detention day.

If you arrive late to school you must sign in at the student reception desk. You will be marked as late in the register and will need a note explaining the reason for your late arrival.

If you arrive over an hour late it will be recorded as an unauthorised absence. This will impact your attendance. All unexplained absences shall be followed up by staff in the attendance office with a call home.



Here is our student entrance.

WHAT DO I NEED TO BRING EACH DAY?

Every student is expected to have a school bag so you can be organised and ready for your learning. Your bag needs to be strong enough to carry your exercise books and PE kit, so choose wisely!

Packing your bag the night before the day ahead, is a good routine.

Inside your bag you will need the following items:

Equipment – pen (black and purple), pencil, ruler, eraser, scientific calculator

Horizon planner – given to you in September

Reading book – your choice

Exercise books for the day

PE kit for lesson or enrichment activities



CAN I BRING MY MOBILE PHONE TO HORIZON?

We know that many of you may find it useful to bring a mobile phone to college so you can check in with your parents or carers on your way home.

However, mobile phones **must not** be used or seen throughout the college day, and this does include break and lunchtime.

They must be in your school bag and turned off. You are responsible for the safe keeping of your phone.

If you did need to contact home, we have a student reception who can help with this.

If you are seen with your mobile phone out during the school day, it will be confiscated and taken to student reception where you will then collect it at the end of the day.

**Mobile phones cannot
be seen or used on
College site.**



They must be stored in your school bag and **NOT** in your blazer pockets.

Refusal to comply will result in a consequence.



CHARACTER IN THE CLASSROOM

You are encouraged to reflect and develop your 'character within the classroom'. This involves you taking ownership and responsibility of your learning, having high expectations of yourself and developing a positive, growth mindset. Your planner identifies important characters and qualities that we feel you should aim to demonstrate at every opportunity. All staff will encourage you to develop 'character in the classroom' which in turn supports our ethos of you becoming a 'positive role model'.



Rewarding your learning in the Classroom





POSITIVE CONDUCT POINTS



ACHIEVEMENT POINTS



STAR OF THE LESSON



CLT STAR CARDS



POSITIVE PRAISE POSTCARDS



POSITIVE PHONE CALL HOME



PROUD THURSDAY STICKER

Outstanding character in the classroom involves...

Having high expectations for yourself

- Taking pride in the quality of your work
- Taking pride in the presentation of your work
- Pushing yourself onto challenging work and not staying in your comfort zone
- Speaking loudly and clearly using a 'stage voice' when addressing the class



Taking responsibility for your learning

- Being fully equipped to learn for every lesson
- Arriving on time for all lessons
- Sitting up straight and tracking the speaker
- Asking questions to clarify learning
- Bringing your book, folder and/or kit
- Being aware of your strengths and areas for development



Having a growth mindset

- Wanting feedback so you can use it to improve
- Consistently working hard
- Listening to others to learn from them
- Supporting your peers and valuing their effort
- Answering questions and not being afraid of being wrong

Taking ownership of your learning

- Taking books home so that you can finish work
- Responding to feedback to make progress
- Completing home learning on time
- Revising for assessments
- Focusing on completing the 'Do Now' task as soon as you arrive at your lesson



CORE VALUE



ASPIRATION
We aim to be the very best that we can be. We set challenging, ambitious and have a strong focus on excellence.



INDEPENDENCE
We take responsibility for our actions. We take control of our lives.



RESILIENCE
We have resilience that you would like to be known. We address our concerns in different ways including our support network.



PRIDE
We are proud to be students at Horizon. We produce work of the highest quality. We challenge our ourselves to achieve excellence. We respect our environment.



RESPECT
We treat others the way we would like to be treated. We celebrate the success of others. We are being respectful, friendly and polite to all.



KINDNESS
We are thoughtful and considerate to others. We are being respectful, friendly and polite to all.

WHAT IS PRAISE?

At Horizon we believe in rewarding attendance, effort, achievement and much more!

Your classroom teachers will award you with achievement points in your lessons – this may be for outstanding home-learning, positive verbal contributions, outstanding effort towards a piece of work or for demonstrating one of the 6 core values. Your teachers may send a postcard home, always a lovely surprise when they land on your doormat!

You may also receive positive conduct points which are given for showing kindness, going above normal expectations, helping other, respect for the college building and being a positive role model.

Achievement points and conduct points are accumulated together and we then have praise thresholds for you to aspire to:



Bronze Award	When students receive 100 net points, they are awarded their Bronze Award. They are presented with their Bronze certificate in form period and a text message is sent home.
Silver Award	When students receive 200 net points, they are awarded their Silver Award. The Silver Award certificate is presented in assembly and a postcard is sent home.
Gold Award	When students receive 300 net points, they are awarded their Gold Award. The Gold Award certificate is presented in the Principal's office and a congratulations letter is sent home. Once students receive their Gold Award they are also invited on the whole school rewards trip at the end of the academic year.
Platinum Award	When students receive 450 net points, they are awarded their Platinum Award. The Platinum Award certificate is presented in the Principal's office and a congratulations letter is sent home. Students will be invited to join the Principal and their Head of Year for an afternoon tea in the summer term to recognise their fantastic efforts.

- Each half term we will have two celebration assemblies – one for attendance and one for outstanding character. In these assemblies there will be gift vouchers for the lucky students who are picked from the prize draw.
- During the year your teachers will report on your effort and progress in lessons. We reward the students in the top 10% for effort with a gold pin badge to recognise their outstanding achievements. We also treat these students to a cooked breakfast with their own reserved seating in the dining hall.
- At the end of each term the Principal awards a certificate to one student in each year group. This student is selected based upon effort across all subjects, involvement in college life, representing the college at a local/national event and many other contributions that make that student 'stand out' as positive role models.
- Throughout the year, Proud Thursday visits are made to classrooms across all subject areas to recognise and reward the pride students have taken with their work. Students are also invited to visit the Proud Thursday table in the heartspace.
- Finally, We encourage all students to visit our Praise Rewards table in the heartspace, where we recognise the accumulation of achievement points.



WHAT CAN I BUY TO EAT?

20

You can buy food and drinks at breakfast, break and lunchtime. You will do this using your Parentmail account that your parents will set up for you.

Your parents/carers will be able to do this on the 2nd September so it is ready for you starting. We will send your parents/carers details when this is ready.

At lunchtime, Year 7 have the dining hall and cafe area all to yourselves, and this also includes all the outdoor space. Other year groups are in lessons!

We upload this onto the college website weekly so that you can choose what you would like to eat before you even get to college!

HORIZON FOOD HALL				
WEEKLY MENU				
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> WEEK 2 COMMENCING - 23/02/2026 </div> <div style="text-align: right;"> </div> </div>				
MAIN MEALS	HOT SNACKS	COLD SNACKS	DELI BAR	DESSERTS
MONDAY ☺ Chicken Fajita with Crunchy salad, Colestow & Crispy Garlic Herb Potatoes <small>(bits of chicken with onions & peppers in a spicy marinade served in a tortilla wrap)</small> ☺ Quorn Naan with Crunchy salad, Colestow & Crispy Garlic Herb Potatoes	Cheese & Ham Panini ☑ Cheese & Tomato Panini	Sandwiches available: Roast Ham, Tuna Mayo/salade, Jam, Cheddar Cheese, Roast Chicken Salad & Daily Specials Noodle & Pasta Pots Layered Salad	PASTA: ☑ Basilico, ☑ Tangy Tomato Jacket Potato with 2 sides <small>(Select from Cheese, Tuna, Beans and Colestow)</small>	☑ Cookie ☑ Jam & Coconut Sponge with Custard
TUESDAY Beef Lasagne with Garlic Bread, Salad, Colestow & Potato Wedge ☺ Vegetable Balti with a Naan Bread	BBQ Chicken Catzone ☑ Roasted Vegetable Catzone	Sandwiches available: Roast Ham, Tuna Mayo/salade, Jam, Cheddar Cheese, Roast Chicken Salad & Daily Specials Noodle & Pasta Pots Layered Salad	PASTA: ☑ Basilico, ☑ Tangy Tomato Jacket Potato with 2 sides <small>(Select from Cheese, Tuna, Beans and Colestow)</small>	☑ Cookie ☑ Toffee Apple Tart with Custard
WEDNESDAY Roast Turkey & Stuffing with Roast Potatoes, Savoy Cabbage & Bacon Carrots ☑ Vegetable Slice with Roast Potatoes, Savoy Cabbage & Bacon Carrots	☺ Chicken Burger ☑ Spicy Bean Burger	Sandwiches available: Roast Ham, Tuna Mayo/salade, Jam, Cheddar Cheese, Roast Chicken Salad & Daily Specials Noodle & Pasta Pots Layered Salad	PASTA: ☑ Basilico, ☑ Beef Bolognaise Jacket Potato with 2 sides <small>(Select from Cheese, Tuna, Beans and Colestow)</small>	☑ Cookie ☑ Chocolate Sponge with Chocolate Custard
THURSDAY Chicken Korma with Rice ☑ Cheese, Potato & Onion Parcel with Crunchy Salad & Colestow	Spicy Chicken Pizzini ☑ Margherita Pizzini	Sandwiches available: Roast Ham, Tuna Mayo/salade, Jam, Cheddar Cheese, Roast Chicken Salad & Daily Specials Noodle & Pasta Pots Layered Salad	PASTA: ☑ Basilico, ☑ Margherita Jacket Potato with 2 sides <small>(Select from Cheese, Tuna, Beans and Colestow)</small>	☑ Cookie ☑ School Sponge with Custard
FRIDAY ☺ Fishcake with Chips, Mushy Peas or Baked Beans	☺ Popcorn Chicken with Chips, and Baked Beans ☑ Mac 'N' Cheese with Chips, and Baked Beans	Sandwiches available: Roast Ham, Tuna Mayo/salade, Jam, Cheddar Cheese, Roast Chicken Salad & Daily Specials Noodle & Pasta Pots Layered Salad	PASTA: ☑ Basilico, ☑ Tomato Salsa Jacket Potato with 2 sides <small>(Select from Cheese, Tuna, Beans and Colestow)</small>	☑ Cookie

Main Meal / Hot Snacks / Cold Snacks / Deli Bar

+

An Item from Desserts

+

Water/ Juice Carton

=

MEAL DEALS

£2.40

☑ Vegetarian ☑ Vegan
 ☑ GF Gluten Free ☑ DF Dairy Free

For more information, please visit our school website and explore the Parents Hub at: <https://horizoncc.co.uk/parents/>

WHEN CAN I VISIT HORIZON?

21

Every student will be invited to visit Horizon before the Summer Holidays. You will spend one day moving around one area of the college, experiencing lessons at Horizon and meeting new people.

The provisional dates are 8th and 9th July and we will be in touch with your primary school to organise which day you will visit.

More information will come soon!



Here are some images of inside the college. These will help you familiarise yourself with your new settling.



Student entrance



Canteen



Heartspace

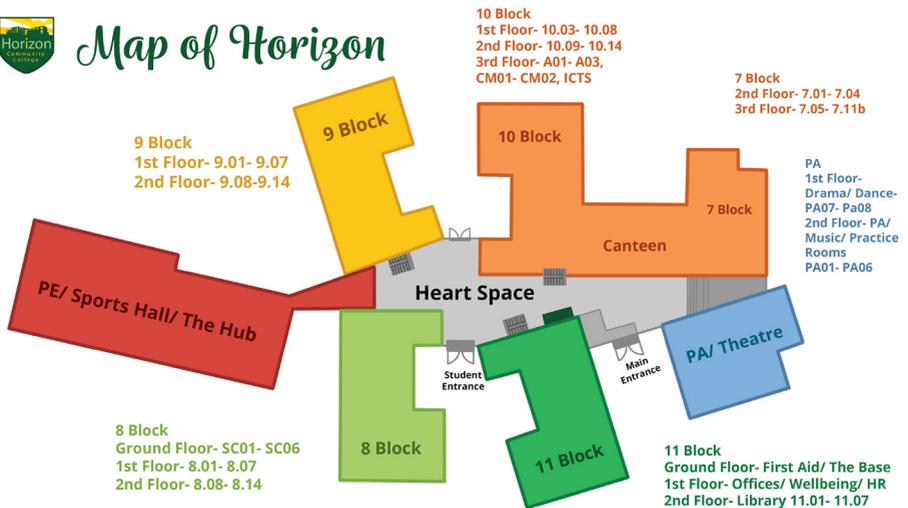


Typical Classroom

There is also a map of the college in your planner.



Map of Horizon



YOUR FIRST DAY AT HORIZON

23

On Wednesday 2nd September all Year 7 will commence their journey at Horizon, wearing their Horizon uniform with pride.

YOUR DAY WILL FOLLOW THE Y7 DAY:

- 8:00-8:25am arrival
- 8:30am start
- 3pm finish
- You will be the only year group in college, and this will give you time to become familiar with the college building.
- There will be Horizon staff waiting for you at the front of college to guide you to the student entrance, so there is no need to be worrying about where to go!
- Our staff wear hi vis jackets so that you can clearly see them.



ON THIS DAY YOU WILL:

- Meet your form and your form tutor
- Receive your timetable and Horizon planner
- Experience some of your lessons around the college. There will be lots of teachers to guide you in the right direction throughout the day.
- Receive a **free** lunch so no-one needs to worry about their parentmail account and how to use this.
- We will send you more details about this day closer to the date so you know exactly what will be happening.

HOW TO KEEP IN TOUCH AND FIND OUT MORE

We will regularly keep in touch with you using APPLICAA. An invite will be sent to your parent/carer using the email address they gave to Barnsley admissions.

Our website is a great place to find out everything about Horizon and we strongly recommend you have a good look at the different areas.



We also have a dedicated email address, just for transition, so if you do have any questions please do *email* us using transition@horizoncc.co.uk

We are so looking forward to meeting you very soon.

School ready; Work ready; Life ready

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horizoncommunitycollege

**School ready;
Work ready;
Life ready**

