



FORMBY HIGH SCHOOL

Determined to Achieve

AWO/LFO

1 September 2023

Dear Year 7 Parents

It is my great pleasure to welcome you and your child to Formby High School. As a newcomer to the school myself I share in your anticipation and excitement for the year ahead. I am delighted to be joining such a thriving school community, and I am sure that your child will be equally keen to take their next steps amongst new friends and make their own contribution to the FHS family.

As the new school year draws nearer, I am writing to confirm arrangements for the start of term and provide you with some other important dates.

Tuesday 5 September

Year 7 students will start school on **Tuesday 5 September 2023**. Only Sixth Form students will also be present on this day which will enable the new Year 7 students to settle in, familiarise themselves with the environment and allow staff to help them prepare for the start of their normal timetable on Wednesday 6 September. Students should arrive, in full school uniform, at **10:00am** for an assembly in the School Hall. Students can purchase food from the servery at lunch time or alternatively bring their own packed lunch. As Formby High School uses a cashless system, please ensure your child's lunch account has been topped up via Parent Pay before the start of term. Please note that this is not a normal timetable day and students will be released after they have had lunch at approximately **12:45pm**.

Wednesday 6 September

Normal timetable will begin for all students on Wednesday 6 September and your child should arrive in time for the start of the school day at **8:50am**. The school day will be as outlined below:

8.50am – 9.10am	Tutor Period (including reading time)
9.10am – 10.10am	Period 1
10.15am – 11.15am	Period 2
11.15am – 11.30am	Morning Break
11.30am – 12.30pm	Period 3
12.30pm – 1.15pm	Lunch
1.15pm – 2.15pm	Period 4
2.20pm – 3.20pm	Period 5

Your child will receive his/her timetable on Tuesday 5 September.

Freshers' Fair

All Year 7 students will be asked to attend the Freshers' Fair which will take place in the School Hall on Monday 11 September from 3:20pm to 4:20pm. This event will enable students to find out about the range of extra-curricular clubs and opportunities they can choose from at Formby High School in a fun 'marketplace' format. Becoming involved in extra-curricular activities is a vital part of our students' development and we would like to see every student participate in at least one activity during Year 7.

Headteacher: Mr A Wood BBA (Hons) NPQH

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Attendance and Punctuality

It is very important that your child aspires to achieve 100% attendance at Formby High School and arrives to school on time and ready for learning each day. The link between attendance and achievement is clear. Good attendance and punctuality habits from day one will enable your child to establish a strong routine and optimise their learning and experience at high school. Please understand that I am unable to authorise holidays during term time (unless in exceptional circumstances) and the term dates for this school year can be found at the end of this letter for your information. If your child needs to attend medical or dental appointments, we ask that you try to book these outside of school hours wherever possible.

Standards, School Uniform and Equipment

Formby High School has high expectations regarding school uniform as we consider this to be a crucial part of our students' attitude to, and readiness for, learning. Our standards and expectations are non-negotiable, and I politely request your support in ensuring that our students respect and adhere to them. Throughout the transition process we have provided comprehensive information regarding uniform requirements and this information is also readily available in the [Key Information/Uniform](#) section of our website. The school has a selection of pre-loved school uniform – please contact Mrs Brooks (Pastoral Outreach Worker) at school if you would like to access this.

We have streamlined the equipment list (see below) and stocks of these items are available to purchase from the school stationery shop (in the General Office). Regular equipment checks will take place during morning tutor sessions.



Home School Agreement

Following the new parents' information evening in July, we wrote to you requesting that you [review the Home School Agreement with your child and return the online form](#) to confirm you have read and understood the expectations it outlines. If you have not yet done so, please complete this online form before the start of the school year.

Friends of Formby High School (FoFHS) Welcome Event

To celebrate Year 7 students' first full fortnight in school, we will be hosting a social gathering for Year 7 and 8 students and their families between 5:30pm and 8:00pm on Friday 15 September 2023. This will be a great opportunity for you to meet some of the school staff and other parents and families, whilst sampling delicious artisan pizzas from 'Pizza Peddlers'. Our FoFHS bar and 'tuck shop' will be open throughout the evening for refreshments and nibbles. Tickets (including food) are priced at £10.00 and can be purchased via Eventbrite: <https://fhsgardenparty2023.eventbrite.co.uk>. In order for us to finalise



numbers with the caterers, we should be grateful for all bookings to be completed by Friday 8 September.

Key Diary Dates

Open Evening – Thursday 21 September 2023

Year 7 volunteers will be invited to act as Student Ambassadors during the evening which takes place between 5:30pm and 7:45pm.

Year 7 Parents' Curriculum Information Evening – Monday 2 October 2023

All Year 7 parents are invited to this event which takes place in the School Hall at 6:00pm.

£25 Contribution

Each year we ask parents to make a financial contribution to the running of the school if they are able to do so. We are very grateful that so many of you make such contributions and help us to provide access to a locker (for which a padlock / combination lock will be required), Class Charts subscription, library membership and materials used in Design Technology lessons during Years 7, 8 and 9. All contributions should be made by ParentPay and you have already been provided with your activation letters and codes for ParentPay to enable you to set up your account and process payments easily online. Please see the ParentPay section below for more information.

ParentPay®

The school's method of payment for school meals, trips and events is a secure website called ParentPay® where parents are able to pay online using credit or debit card. This system is easy to use and offers parents the freedom to make online payments whenever/wherever they like with the security of knowing their child will not have to worry about taking money into school. Parents can access their full payment history and merge accounts if they have more than one child at school.

In August, you will have received a letter from our Finance Department containing your activation code to enable you to register and top up your ParentPay account with the £25 contribution outlined above. If your child intends to take school lunches, please also top up his/her 'School Meals' account on ParentPay.

If you would like to attend the Friends of Formby High School 'Welcome Night' on 15 September, please complete payment via ParentPay for the required number of tickets (£10.00 each).

Should you experience any problems with ParentPay or you have not yet received your activation letter, please contact the Finance Department by email at finance@formbyhighschool.com or leave a voice message on 01704 835644 and we will ensure your account is activated before the start of term.

ParentMail®

The school uses ParentMail® to communicate with parents by email and text message to limit the costs and environmental impact associated with sending paper copies of correspondence home. We ask all parents to sign up to this service to improve the reliability and speed of communication from the school. Please be assured that ParentMail® is registered with the Data Protection Registrar and guarantees that all information you provide will be kept private and will not be passed on to any other organisation. At the start of term you will receive an email (at the email address you provided us with on your child's admission form) with registration and activation details. Please ensure you complete the full registration process as soon as you receive the email to avoid missing any important communication from school.

Contact information

It is the responsibility of parents to ensure that contact information held by the school is accurate – if you have had any changes to telephone/email/home address information and have not updated the school, please do so by emailing enquiries@formbyhighschool.com. For full information on how Formby High School manages personal data (how it is collected, stored and processed by the school) please refer to our [Privacy Notice on the school website](#).



I trust this information is helpful. On behalf of everyone at Formby High School, we look forward to welcoming your child on Tuesday 5 September 2023.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A Wood', written over a horizontal line.

Mr A Wood
Headteacher

Enc: Term Dates 2023/24



TERM DATES 2023/24

Autumn Term 2023

Monday 4 September Tuesday 5 September	INSET Day 1 (staff only) Term commences for Years 7, 12 and 13 only Year 7 Welcome Assembly 10:00am Year 13 Induction Assembly 11:00am Year 12 Welcome Assembly 1:20pm
Wednesday 6 September Thursday 21 September Friday 20 October	Normal Timetable All Years School open to Year 11 only (am) / Open Evening INSET Day 2 (staff only)
Monday 23 – Friday 27 October	Half Term
Monday 30 October Friday 1 December Wednesday 20 December	Term resumes INSET Day 3 (staff only) Term ends

Spring Term 2024

Thursday 4 January	Term commences
Monday 12 – Friday 16 February	Half Term
Monday 19 February Tuesday 20 February Thursday 28 March Friday 29 March	INSET 4 (staff only) Term resumes for students Term ends BANK HOLIDAY (Good Friday)

Summer Term 2024

Thursday 11 April Monday 6 May	Term commences School closed – May Day Bank Holiday
Monday 27 May – Friday 31 May	Half Term
Monday 3 June Friday 21 June Friday 19 July	Term resumes INSET Day 5 (staff only) Term ends