

# MHS Middle School Overview 2019/20



# Table of Contents

Overview	1
The School day	2
The School Timetable	3
The Curriculum	4
Tracking Progress	5

## Overview

Middle School consists of Years Seven and Eight and typically there are 6 form groups in each year with approximately 12 pupils in each form.

Each year has its own Head of Year who leads the tutor team and is a central point of communication for both pupils and parents. The Head of Year will hold assemblies with their own year group every week to update pupils with events and important information which is specifically relevant to them.

Head of Year Seven – Mrs. Clare Babayan.

Head of Year Eight – Mr. Armand Faasen.

The Middle years provide an opportunity for pupils to experience the wider facilities of the school. Lessons are timetabled outside of Gardner House where the Junior School is based, but break and lunch times are still scheduled together.

Middle School sees the arrival of new pupils throughout the year and the Head of Year and team of tutors work hard to ensure that every pupil settles quickly into the school routine no matter in what part of the school year they arrive.

For pupils arriving at the start of the academic year in September, an induction day provides an opportunity for the boys and their parents to meet with form teachers and the Head of Year and also the chance to experience the school facilities.

## The School Day

The school day runs from 8.30am to 4.30pm. The playground is supervised from 8.20am for early arrivals. The school day can be extended to 5.30pm if pupils attend extra-curricular activities after school.

### Registration

Pupils begin and end the school day in their Form Group where they prepare for the day ahead or review how the day has gone.

Tutors will ensure that homework diaries have been completed and discuss any concerns pupils may have.

Morning form time begins at 8.30 am

Afternoon form time begins at 4.00 pm

### Assemblies

Every day pupils will attend an assembly which is run by one of a broad range of staff and external speakers. A wide range of topics are covered in assembly but they also give pupils an opportunity to mix with different year groups.

### Mentoring

Every pupil is allocated a mentor (sometimes this is also their tutor) with whom they meet regularly on a one to one basis.

Mentors support each pupil to develop his understanding of his strengths, and areas of skill weaknesses, and support the pupil to set himself small challenges addressing his educational needs in his lessons. In addition, a Social and Emotional Learning target is agreed which can be centered around the home or boarding environment.

# The School Timetable

## The Structure

The school timetable operates on a fortnightly schedule (known as Week A and Week B).

Lessons run for approximately 55 minutes (but do vary slightly) with the day being divided into 6 lessons, one morning break and, of course, lunch. The Friday of Week B is known as Flexi Friday and the normal six-lesson schedule is replaced with deep-dives into academic and extra-curricular topics. Flexi Friday provides an opportunity to enrich the curriculum with trips and themed days.

Lessons start at 9am after assembly and mentoring time, and end at 4pm, allowing pupils 20 minutes with their form tutor at the end of the day.

## Extra-Curricular Activities

After school activities run from 4.30pm to 5.30pm and provide pupils the opportunity to learn new skills and make new friends outside of their year group.

Most clubs are free but a few, specialist clubs such as rock climbing etc. do require payment. A schedule of these clubs will be published on the parent portal.

# The Curriculum

## The Subjects

In the Middle Years pupils study English, Mathematics and Science, together with a broader curriculum including Art, Computer Science, Cookery, Drama, Geography, History, Information and Creative Technology, Music, Physical Education, Religious Education, Spanish, and Design Technology. In Year Nine pupils look to focus their option subjects as they prepare for GCSEs and BTECs in Years Ten and Eleven. At the end of Year Eight, with the help of their teachers, pupils select 6 subjects from approximately 21 choices, that they would like to study in Year Nine. In the Trinity term pupils and parents will have an opportunity to meet with their teachers to discuss which options may suit them best.

## Homework

We are mindful of the needs of all our pupils including differing learning needs, long journeys to and from school etc, but also of the need for pupils to develop their ability to work independently. In Year Seven pupils will be set homework in the core subjects of English, Mathematics and Science every week. In Year Eight homework increases to include non-core subjects, set once for each over the two-week timetable.

## The Learning Development Centre

Pupils also access Speech & Language Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Literacy intervention and Numeracy intervention according to their bespoke timetable and set annual targets. Pupils experience these sessions in smaller groups of between three and five pupils.

## Tracking Progress

The school keeps in regular contact with parents regarding pupil progress in a number of ways:

- Half termly progress grades are published on the parent portal
- Parent / Option Evenings are held for Year Seven in Michaelmas and Year Eight in Trinity.
- Detailed Annual reports are published on the parent portal at the close of the Trinity term.
- The Headmaster's newsletter is published to parents throughout the school year and gives information on events across the whole school.

## Key Contacts

### **The Year Seven Tutor Team:**

Initial enquires should always be directed initially to the tutor who will then contact the appropriate members of staff.

Mr. Michael Farrant: mfarrant@morehouseschol.co.uk

Mr. Adrian Harmer: aharmer@morehouseschol.co.uk

Mrs. Julie Clarkson: jclarkson@morehouseschol.co.uk

Ms. Jenna Morgan: jmorgan@morehouseschool.co.uk

Ms. Amber Fox: afox@morehouseschol.co.uk

Ms. Charlotte Dickinson: cdickinson@morehouseschol.co.uk

### **The Year Eight Tutor Team:**

Initial enquires should always be directed initially to the tutor who will then contact the appropriate members of staff.

Mrs. Angela Saunders: asaunders@morehouseschool.co.uk

Mr. Kristopher Pointer: kpointer@morehouseschool.co.uk

Mr. James Kay: jkay@morehouseschool.co.uk

Mrs. Alexandra Derrick: aderrick@morehouseschool.co.uk

Mrs. Amanda Hartley: ahartley@morehouseschool.co.uk

Ms. Harriett Hunter: hhunter@morehouseschool.co.uk

### **Head of Year Seven:**

Mrs. Clare Babayan: cbabayan@morehouseschol.co.uk

### **Head of Year Eight:**

Mr. Armand Faasen: afaasen@morehouseschool.co.uk