

Welcome to Newlands Girls' School

PRIMARY TO SECONDARY TRANSITION

We do everything we can to support new Year 7s through their transition from primary to secondary school:

Liaising with primary schools

We work closely with our primary school colleagues to ensure an effective transfer of educational information about your daughters. Over the course of the summer term, we will hold conversations with the appropriate staff in each school to better understand your daughter's current school experience in order to prepare for them to successfully continue their educational journey at Newlands.

Speaking to the students

We are keen to get to know your daughters, so we will arrange to meet with them in late May/June to learn more about their interests and hobbies, as well as giving them the chance to ask us any questions they may have. We will also provide an overview of what to expect as a Year 7 and discuss the school day, what they will need, our curriculum, extra-curricular opportunities and how we will support them. Most importantly, we will try to alleviate any worries they are having - usually about getting lost!

Parents' Information Evening

**Thursday 18th June 2026
6:00pm**

At this meeting you will hear presentations from the Head of Year 7 and other key members of staff to help you to gain an understanding of the curriculum, systems and processes of the school. Please note that this is a meeting for parents/carers only.

Year 7 Transition Day Tuesday 30th June 2026 9:00am – 2:45pm

We invite all of our new students to spend the day at Newlands in July. They will firstly meet their Form Tutor and other students in their form group and spend some time getting to know each other through 'ice-breaker' activities. They then follow a busy programme, which includes experiencing three 'taster' lessons with Newlands' teachers, visiting the school library and learning about pastoral support in the school from our students themselves.

Throughout the day, students will be accompanied by a team of 'Big Sister' Leaders – Year 9 students, who will be on hand to answer any and all questions as they arise!

Your daughters should come dressed in their current primary school uniform, and bring with them a water bottle, packed lunch and pencil case.

Induction Day

**Wednesday 2nd September 2026
8:40am**

On their first day of school, only Year 7 and Year 12 are on site, allowing for our newest members of the community to explore the space properly. We know how important it is for students to feel comfortable in their surroundings, so we build in to the schedule both a student-led tour and a group 'information hunt' activity to encourage our new Year 7s to discover the site for themselves!

We also take time on this day to ensure students are ready for the term ahead, explaining their timetables, homework and expectations, as well as completing practical tasks, such as setting them up to use the canteen and IT facilities.

Your daughters should come dressed in their Newlands school uniform, and bring with them a water bottle, packed lunch, reading book and pencil case.

The first few weeks in September

We will continue to help your daughters to settle in to their new school over the first term. For those worrying about navigating the site, we ask teachers to support students in moving to their next lesson until they are able to do this independently (surprisingly quickly!).

We feel strongly that engaging in our extra-curricular offer is one of the best ways of feeling part of the Newlands community, and so we encourage all of our Year 7s to attend at least one club. As there are over 70 to choose from, to help them decide, we will hold a freshers-style Clubs Fair at the end of their first week so they can talk to students and staff about the various activities available.

We will communicate with you largely through Arbor, so please ensure you set up the App as soon as possible in September.

Year 7 Form Tutor Parents' Evening Thursday 15th October 4:00pm – 7:00pm

Once your daughter has completed most of her first term, we will invite you to make a five-minute appointment (in person) to meet your daughter's Form Tutor and discuss her transition. The pastoral team, including your daughter's Head of Year and the Senior Link to Year 7, will also be available, should you have any queries at this stage.

● COURAGE

● COMMITMENT

● COMPASSION