



Ringwood School



# Parent Information

## Year 7 - 2025-2026

Courage    Ambition    Integrity    Respect



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## Key Staff for Year 7

### Leadership Team:

Headteacher	Mrs Symonds
Deputy Headteacher	Miss Adams
Assistant Headteachers	Mrs Wornell
	Mrs Heaver-Webb
	Mrs Barker-Garrod
	Miss Bastow-Hart
	Miss Jolly
	Mr Broadhouse
Head of Business & Finance	Mr R Sismey

Head of Year 7 & Induction: Mr Massimino



**Pastoral Support Team:** Mrs Mitchell, Miss Seward, Mr Tate, Mrs Hayworth, Mr Cook

**SENCo:** Miss Bastow-Hart  
cbastowhart@ringwood.hants.sch.uk

**Deputy SENCo:** Mrs Lewis  
vlewis@ringwood.hants.sch.uk

**Assistant SENCo:** Ms Hennessey  
nhennessey@ringwood.hants.sch.uk

**Inclusion Support Lead:** Mrs Mitchell

**Attendance Officer:** Ms Varty  
attendance@ringwood.hants.sch.uk

**School Telephone number:** 01425 475000

**School Website:** [www.ringwood.hants.sch.uk](http://www.ringwood.hants.sch.uk)

## Autumn Term

Monday 1st September	Inset Day
Tuesday 2nd September	Inset Day
Wednesday 3rd September	Year 7 & 12 only
Thursday 4th September	Return for all students
Friday 10th October	Inset Day
Friday 24th October	Break up - Half Term
Monday 3rd November	Students return
Friday 28th November	Inset Day
Friday 19th December	Break up - Christmas

## Spring Term

Monday 5th January	Students return
Friday 13th February	Break up - Half Term
Monday 23rd February	Students return
Friday 27th March	Break up for Easter

## Summer Term

Monday 13th April	Students return
Friday 22nd May	Break up - Half Term
Monday 2nd June	Students return
Friday 17th July	Break up - Summer



# Ringwood School Ethos

Learning is at the heart of Ringwood School for students and staff alike. Through the variety of learning experiences provided by a broad and balanced curriculum, students are encouraged to engage with a rich experience; one which promotes inquiry, interest and collaboration.

Student ownership of their own learning is an important element in our learning environment. Students will receive regular feedback and will be expected to apply the advice of their teacher to make further progress as they move towards fulfilling their potential. Teachers at our school

aim to ignite curiosity and excitement about the topics that they are teaching, and we hope that our students will pursue 'scholarliness' in their learning, even from Year 7, where they undertake further enquiry independently in the areas that have most piqued their interest. Suggestions for further exploration appear on the curriculum maps.

Our four school values contribute to the development of the whole student and reinforce our ethos. They run through our lessons, assemblies, tutor times and celebration events, helping to model what we believe to be at the foundation of a successful student and young person.



At Ringwood we aim to maintain **high quality learning** and teaching in all subject areas and across all key stages in order to provide students with experiences that will inspire and enable them to **make exceptional progress** and develop skills for lifelong learning.

Foundations for **lifelong success**:

Courage

**Ambition**

Integrity

**Respect**

# Guidance and Achievement

## – Pastoral Care

At Ringwood School we pride ourselves on the pastoral care we offer our students and we place considerable importance on creating a safe learning environment where students feel inspired, enthused and challenged. We recognise that starting secondary school is a significant event in the life of your child and that the increased expectation to work independently, be organised and embrace opportunities can be both exciting and daunting in equal measure.

Our team of highly qualified teaching and support staff therefore offer multi-faceted pastoral and academic support to meet the needs of all students and ensure they get the most out of their Ringwood School experience.

## Role of the Tutor and Head of Year

At the start of Year 7, every child is carefully placed in a tutor group and assigned a Tutor. We place great value on this relationship, as students begin every school day with their Tutor and remain with them for their first five years at Ringwood School. Your child's Tutor should be the first person you contact if you wish to discuss matters affecting your child's progress or wellbeing. The Tutor Team is expertly led by a Head of Year, who has complete pastoral oversight of the year group.

The Head of Year 7, Mr Massimino, works closely with all our feeder schools to ensure a smooth transition from Year 6 to Year 7. Mr Massimino will oversee the year group until they move into Year 8, at which point another experienced Head of Year will take them through the rest of their Ringwood School journey.

## The Hive

The Hive is our student support base situated in the centre of the school; it houses a chillout room, a reading corner, a social space, a small teaching room and a study area, which is well-equipped with IT and other resources to enhance learning. Our friendly and approachable student support team are always on hand to offer support with students' learning, organisation and preparation for the day or to talk through any worries or concerns.

## Medical Support

Miss Meakins, our School Nurse, leads a team who work hard to ensure that the medical needs of our students are met and cause no barriers to learning; they can be contacted via reception and are found in the medical room, in the same building as The Hive.

## The Library

We are keen to nurture a culture of reading for pleasure here at Ringwood School with the benefits of reading reaching all areas of the curriculum. We are fortunate to have a large and well stocked library which is open all day and can be accessed by students either during lessons or at break and lunch. The library is also open Monday - Thursday after school for Home Learning Club from 3pm - 4pm.

All students also have access to the Sora reading app which is home to a wealth of ebooks, audiobooks, graphic novels, magazines and Manga.



# Emotional, Social and Behaviour Support

One of the real strengths of our school is the support offered to students if they are feeling unhappy or worried. If Year 7 students have any concerns, they have a range of people they can turn to for support: their Tutor, a Teacher, their Head of Year, one of the On Call Team, someone from The Hive and/or one of the Peer Mentors (Year 10 students trained to support Year 7 students).

Most problems can be resolved quickly, however for students that require more specific support over a longer period, we also have our own Behaviour, Inclusion, Pupil Premium and Emotional Support Leads, an Emotional Support Worker and two fully qualified ELSAs. Students identified as needing additional support of this nature will be referred by their Head of Year for a programme of 1:1 or small group sessions with one of these professionals. Parents/carers will always be consulted before this level of support is put in place. The principal aim of every programme will be to equip students with the strategies they need to re-establish and maintain a healthy sense of well-being.

## Safeguarding

The governors and school staff at Ringwood School place the utmost importance in ensuring the safety and well-being of all our students. If you are concerned about a child at our school then please contact one of the Safeguarding Team, who will actively support you to address any concerns.

They are fully trained and experienced in dealing with a wide range of issues and challenges faced by young people and can be contacted directly via email ([safeguarding@ringwood.hants.sch.uk](mailto:safeguarding@ringwood.hants.sch.uk)) or by phone via school reception.

### The Safeguarding Team at Ringwood School are:

Miss H Jolly   Mr A Walbrin   Mr T Cooper   Mr T Broadhouse   Mrs V Lewis  
Miss C Adams   Mrs Mitchell

## Behaviour

To ensure we provide a safe learning environment where all students can learn in confidence, we have high expectations of our students' behaviour. **Our full behaviour policy can be found on our website, however at the core of our expectations lies the STARS Code of Conduct, to which all students are expected to adhere:**

**Sit up, listen and engage**

**Track the speaker at all times**

**Ask and answer questions like a scholar**

**Respond to instructions and requests from the teacher without question or comment**

**Show respect - one voice at a time without disturbing the learning of others**

# SEN Support

At Ringwood School, the fundamental principle is that of inclusion. We recognise that many students experience learning difficulties at some stage during their school career. These may fall into one or more of the following categories: cognition and learning, communication and interaction, social, mental and emotional health difficulties and/or physical and sensory needs. We value all students in our community and believe they are entitled to equal opportunities. We are committed to removing barriers to learning in the classroom through high quality teaching to enable students with SEND to have full access to the curriculum.

We do also acknowledge that, at times, some students with SEND may require more specialised teaching or support, which we may provide outside of the classroom. We have a fantastic team of Teaching Assistants who not only support in the classroom but also deliver several interventions including: Paired Reading; Precision Teaching; Typing Fluency; Reading Plus; and Emotional Literacy Support Assistance.

Your child's needs will be met through a continuum of provision to ensure a successful, enjoyable and fulfilling experience at Ringwood School.

Over the course of your two week timetable your child will have 50 lessons that will consist of:

English: 7 lessons

Maths: 7 lessons

Science: 6 lessons

Language: 5 lessons

Ethics & Philosophy: 2 lessons

Geography: 3 lessons

History: 3 lessons

IT and Computer Science: 2 lessons

Art: 2 lessons

Drama: 2 lessons

Music: 2 lessons

PE: 4 lessons

Design & Technology: 4 lessons

PSHE: 1 lesson





## Ringwood School Learning Groups

**At Ringwood School we use a range of different grouping strategies to ensure that students achieve the highest levels of progress.**

In French, Humanities, Maths and Science students are grouped according to ability in that subject, with learning groups on each side of the year. Students study Computing in their Maths group. Our teachers with subject specific expertise and the wider perspective of knowing the relative strengths of all the students are best placed to decide which students should be in which groups.

Be reassured that, although we set students for some subjects, we work very hard within every group to offer stretch and challenge and support to meet the individual needs of each student. Mixed ability teaching takes place in Art, Drama, English, Ethics & Philosophy, Music, PE and Technology. PSHE (Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education) is taught in tutor groups in Year 7.

The Guidance & Achievement Team works with all subject departments to monitor student

progress on a termly basis and ensure that students are achieving well relative to their ability. If a student outperforms their learning group consistently during a term, they can expect to move groups to ensure that they are always working at the right level and pace for their ability. Where this occurs, the school will contact parents to let them know in advance.

All students are given a target during Year 7, based on prior attainment information. This is reviewed termly and will rise if your son or daughter makes particularly good progress in a subject area over time.

We believe in working in close partnership with our feeder schools. In addition to pastoral staff visiting to meet students in Year 6, we also have several subject links with teaching staff visiting each other to share good practice.

**We run Home Learning Club after school every day in our Library. Some of these days are staffed with TA support and children can work in a quiet and supportive environment. Students are able to choose which days they attend and can use it as often as they need to.**



# Celebrating Achievement

At Ringwood School we believe in taking every opportunity to celebrate the many **successes of our students**. Staff regularly reward students using our House Points rewards system, where points are intrinsically linked to the House values. Your child will be assigned to one of five school Houses when they start at Ringwood School. The House system runs alongside our year group structure and will drive enrichment activities and competition within school.

House points count towards the House Cup, which is awarded annually, and points can be spent by students in our online shop or donated to charity. Throughout the academic year, students work towards individual milestones - receiving certificates, badges, and lunch queue jump passes along the way. Students who reach the Platinum Award milestone are invited on a special rewards trip in the summer term.

In addition to House Points, students can receive 'Scholar Awards' from their teachers following a progress check. Scholar Awards are awarded to students who show an academic curiosity to find out more to make themselves an expert in their subject, beyond what is studied in the classroom. Students with Scholar Award nominations from four or more subjects will receive a Scholar badge to be worn on their blazer with pride.

We end the academic year with our annual Celebration Evening, where House, Tutor, Head of Year and Subject prizes are awarded in every year group, and our Sports Awards Evening, where the sporting achievements of our students both in and outside of school are recognised and celebrated.

We believe in providing young people with the opportunity to take on positions of responsibility both within the Tutor Group and within the school, from the moment they join us in Year 7. Within a Tutor Group there are nominated "House Reps". These representatives have a variety of roles such as leading inter-form, charity work and attending Student Voice Forums. They ensure communications between the various activities on offer and Tutor Groups. **The school also recognises the achievement, effort and commitment of students who consistently take part in activities outside of the classroom.**

**"Promoting a love of learning and intellectual curiosity"**

# Use of Information and Communications Technology

**This is a quick guide to some important issues regarding use of ICT.**

The school has a computer network which students have access to, not only in lesson time but before school, during lunch and after school. Students can also access their own network areas from home. Individual network areas are password protected.

All students who join the school will have ICT and computer science lessons in Years 7, 8 and 9. This will enable them to learn how to use a wide variety of software programmes efficiently and effectively. Students will have access to a wide range of resources via the internet. It is important that they learn how to search for information and learn to identify the difference between factual information and opinionated writing.

Students will use a range of resources in different subject areas to include: fixed PCs, laptop computers, voting pads, electronic white boards, netbooks, tablet PCs, digital cameras etc.

Students who do not have access to a computer at home can stay in school to use our resources or attend a lunchtime club held in a computer suite on a Monday – Thursday lunchtime.

Rights bring responsibilities. All students are encouraged to develop a sensible attitude towards both the use of computers and the needs of others. Students should ensure equipment is always used in a positive way.

The school is required to ensure that there is no illegal copying of software. This is deemed as theft. It is not permitted to copy programmes/software from school computers for use at home. The swapping of dubiously acquired programmes by students is forbidden. Now that students have access to network area resources, there is rarely a need for ICT materials to be brought into school. Memory sticks are sometimes used by students to save work.

School has a fibre connection to the Internet which gives student's access to the World Wide Web. Internet material which is unsuitable for schools is excluded from the school network by means of a blocking system and Internet use is monitored by our ICT Systems Manager.

**Email addresses and access to Microsoft Teams for each of their classes are given to Years 7 - 13. All users of the school email system are required to abide by the principle that no language or messages that could cause offence to other people may be used. Students are also able to email teachers if necessary. Students who abuse the trust placed in them by misusing email, may have their addresses blocked.**



# Smartphones in Year 7

**Smartphones are not permitted in school for Year 7.** We have made this decision to safeguard the health and wellbeing of our students and to support those parents who want their children to be smartphone free, giving a full and enriching childhood to their children.

If a Year 7 child does come into school with a smartphone and it is confiscated, we will not return it to the student. We will ask parents / carers to come in for a meeting instead.

We recognise that children may have other devices at home. Please be aware that many social media platforms have a minimum age requirement of 13. If a child reports an incident on an online platform that they are too young to be using we will not deal with the incident unless it has spilt over into real life.

Our Year 7 ITATCs programme focuses on e-safety, and therefore we will commit time to helping your child understand how to keep themselves safe online before they are allowed smartphones in school.

## Our School Uniform

Uniform is **a statement of pride** in the school, **a statement of belonging** and **a personal commitment** by the individual to the school. Our school uniform is designed to **encourage our students to feel proud** to belong to our school community.

## Ringwood School Uniform Checklist

### Essential:

- Grey blazer with green piping on lapels\*
- Grey trousers or green tartan skirt option\*
- White shirt or blouse
- House tie\*
- Ringwood games shirt\*
- Ringwood sports polo shirt with House colour\*
- Shorts or skirt
- Ringwood knee length sports socks\*
- Sports trainers
- Football boots - moulded studs
- Mouthguard
- Shin pads
- Kit bag
- Roll-on deodorant
- Water bottle

### Optional Uniform Items:

- Green V neck jumper\*
- Ringwood sports fleece\*
- Black plain base layer
- Boot bag

ALL ITEMS TO BE CLEARLY AND PERMANENTLY MARKED WITH STUDENT'S NAME.

Items marked \* are only available to purchase from Stevensons.

# STEVENSONS

01202 425192 • [www.stevensons.co.uk](http://www.stevensons.co.uk)

Opening Times: Monday to Friday 9.00am to 5.30pm

Saturday 9.00am to 5.00pm, Sunday CLOSED



# Ringwood School House Shields



ANNING  
Be Curious



BRUNEL  
Be Determined



HARDY  
Dream Big



THORNHILL  
Embrace Opportunities



NIGHTINGALE  
Make No Excuses