

The Minster School

Parents and Carers Information evening



September 2026
YEAR 8 & 9



Welcome to The Minster School

“Succeeding Together”



Fantastic exam success over the summer...!

Year 11	Minster
4+ E / M	82.0%

Year 13	Minster
A*-A %	21.4%



Settling back in



We hope your sons and daughters are looking forward to their first day back in school tomorrow

Please encourage them to speak to us if there are any concerns

Year 8 Year Leader has changed from Miss Sanderson to Mr Roberts

Year 9 Year Leader has changed and will be Ms Nesbitt

Getting the culture right:

Tomorrow – series of sessions within lessons

Clearly communicating and explaining our expectations

Consistent message across whole school

Fire alarms and lockdown drills

Friday – Fire walk throughs

Monday – lockdown drill practice



Settling back in

Uniform:

- Black school shoes – not trainers
- School shirts tucked in
- Black school trousers or Minster School skirt – skirts should not be shortened or rolled up
- Optional Minster School (or plain black) jumper or cardigan
- Hair should be a natural colour
- Jewellery – one stud in each ear only is allowed plus a watch
- Facial piercings are not allowed at all – this includes clear retainers. Covering with a plaster is also not permitted.
- Nails should be short – safe for PE and D&T
- False eyelashes should be removed



Uniform Expectations at The Minster School



Item	Image	School expectations	Not permitted
COMPULSORY ITEMS			
Blazer and tie		Plain black Minster School blazer with Minster School logo	A coat or Jacket instead of a blazer.
		Minster School tie (Clumber, Rufford, Thoresby or Welbeck depending on the student's House) A blazer and tie must be worn around the school at all times unless otherwise instructed by a member of staff	A jumper instead of a blazer. Hoodies.
Shirt or blouse		Plain white school shirt or blouse, with buttons which fasten to the neck. Long or short sleeves. The shirt/blouse must be fully tucked in to the waistband of the skirt/trousers.	T Shirt or Polo shirt. Round collar. Coloured/logged tops/polo shirts under shirts. Capped sleeves or sleeveless shirts/blouses are not permitted.



Item	Image	School expectations	Not permitted
COMPULSORY ITEMS			
Shoes		Plain black, sensible leather type school shoes. Flat or with low heels only. Practical and safe style. Worn with plain black, grey or white ankle socks or black or neutral tights.	Boots, trainers, sandals or canvas shoes are not acceptable. Footless tights or leggings are also not acceptable.
Trousers or skirt	 	Plain black loose fitting/boot cut trousers worn at the waist OR Castle Grey Tartan Senior Stitch-Down Pleated Skirt, in length 20" or 22".	Denim or chino type material Leggings, footless tights, cropped or ankle grazers Skinny fitting or excessively tight Low-rise trousers Excessively wide bell bottoms Skirts which have been excessively rolled up at the waistband or excessively shortened

Item	Image	School expectations	Not permitted
OPTIONAL UNIFORM ITEMS			
Jumper		Black, embroidered with "The Minster School Southwell"	Round neck jumpers
		OR Plain black V-neck jumper OR Black fine knit cardigan embroidered with "The Minster School Southwell" OR Plain black fine knit cardigan	V neck jumpers or cardigans with logos other than "The Minster School" Hoodies or other fleece fabric jackets Any other colour knitwear other than black



Item	Image	School expectations	Not permitted
OTHER OPTIONAL ITEMS RELATED TO UNIFORM			
Coat or jacket, hat and scarf		Outdoor coat, hat, scarf. Coats must fit over the blazer.	Coats, scarves and hats must not be worn indoors, and coats must not be worn instead of a blazer.
Jewellery	 	A small pair of stud earrings A wristwatch	Smart watches which offer any of the functionalities of a mobile phone. Any other jewellery other than the items mentioned to the box on the left – this includes, but is not limited to, hoop earrings, bracelets, rings and facial piercings, which are not allowed at all, other than a small pair of stud earrings.
Religious headwear		Any headwear worn for religious reasons should be plain black	Any religious headwear which is not plain black

PERSONAL APPEARANCE

Students at The Minster School are expected to look smart in their appearance and be ready to learn.

- False nails and false eyelashes are not permitted
- Any make-up should be natural and subtle
- Hair colour should be kept to a natural range of colours

Students will have their uniform checked daily on the gate upon arrival. Any compulsory items which are missing will result in a 10-minute break detention issued for the same day. Any items which are not allowed will initially be requested to be removed on entry.

Students who persistently fail to follow instructions regarding the uniform expectations above will be subject to our behaviour procedures and sanctions. These may include detentions, internal exclusion (for repeated breach of expectations or refusal to follow instructions) and, if necessary, suspension (for further repeated breach or refusal to follow instructions).

Thank you for your support!



Phones – updated policy

New Government guidance with effect from September

All schools should be “mobile-phone-free environments”

Phones must be switched off and out of sight (kept in student’s bag or locker.)

This also includes headphones and smart watches.

They cannot be used for any purpose. This includes contacting home or education.

There are a very small number of exceptions for students with medical/SEND needs.

Agreed in advance in writing.

If a phone is seen it will be confiscated until the end of the day.

1st offence – One hour detention

2nd offence – One hour detention and one-week daily device hand in

Further breaches or non-compliance will result in

- Extended device hand-in
- Internal exclusion
- Suspension



Phones – updated policy



Further guidance can be found via our website with a letter and video:

[The Minster School - Mobile Phone & Smart Device Policy Updates](#)



Settling back in



ParentPay

If you have any concerns please contact parentpay@minsterschool.org.uk

Please check your child's balance regularly

Students can run into debt

We can place spending limits on students accounts

Please email finance@minsterschool.org.uk to set one up

Medical questionnaire – please ensure this is completed and returned asap

Attendance

- We believe that every day and every minute counts and the impact of lost days and minutes can be seen here.
-
- If your child is absent for a medical appointment, please forward a copy of the letter/email/screenshot to attendance@minsterschool.org.uk
- We recognise that for some students with specific needs that it is more challenging to achieve a high level of attendance and punctuality, we do strive to support all students in achieving this.

Attendance Ladder



Student Support

- Pastoral support from teachers and tutors
- Year Leaders and Student Services
- Additional support from SEN team and inclusion



Mental Health Support Team

- The CAMHS Mental Health Support Team is a new collaborative trailblazing service across health and education, available in project schools across Nottinghamshire.
- They are an early intervention mental health and wellbeing service in schools aimed at providing support for children, young people and families around low-level emotional wellbeing needs, such as anxiety, low mood, managing emotions, and sleep. They link in directly with Nottinghamshire CAMHS teams and provide in school sessions to promote positive mental health. Their work is delivered on a 1:1 and group/workshop basis.
- Referrals for support can be through your child's year leader/key stage leader, or you can directly refer as a parent/carer.



Year 8

- New teaching groups for Year 8
- Sets for Maths
- D&T smaller groups
- PE – girls and boys taught separately
- Students will continue to study French or Spanish
- A small number of students will study a second language
- Students will participate in a daily Act of Worship during tutor time, this is inclusive for students of the Christian faith, other faiths and no faith.
- Disciplinary Literacy
- DEAR time – drop everything and read – bring a book!



Curriculum in Year 8

- **English** – reading a wide variety of books including The boy in the striped pyjamas, Wonder, Wolf Brother, Medusa, units on Dickens, Poetry, short stories and Drama performances
- **Maths** – following a Mastery approach to build on knowledge from Y7 and develop all areas of maths
- **Science** – learning about the scientific method through topics such as ‘Microbes and disease’, ‘Materials from the Earth’ and ‘Magnetism’
- **History** – topics including Slavery, the Industrial revolution, Suffragettes and the First World War
- **Geography** – learning about world issues such as the impact of migration and natural hazards
- **RS** – looking at Faith in Action, Hinduism, Sikhism and Human rights
- **Computer Science** – programming in Scratch, Big Wheel project and Music festival project.



Curriculum in Year 8

- **French/Spanish** – topics including free time, school, technology and social media
- **D&T** – projects include making a clock, a cushion, using CAD to design a cube and making pizzas, cheesecake and pasta bake in food!
- **Art** - learning about composition and perspective, working with clay and textiles and finding out about the Artist Courtney Mattisson
- **PE** – developing skills and tactics through different sports including Badminton, Handball, Football, Dance, Rugby, Athletics and Tennis
- **Drama** - learning about the genres of Melodrama and Panto, working with a range of scripts and learning about set and lighting design
- **Music** - learning about The Blues, songwriting composition, Band skills, Minimalism and Djembe drumming



Year 9

- New teaching groups for Year 9
- Sets for Maths
- Students will begin studying some GCSE content in core subjects
- D&T smaller groups
- PE – girls and boys taught separately
- Students will continue to study French with a small number still studying German as a second language.
- Students will participate in a daily Act of Worship during tutor time, this is inclusive for students of the Christian faith, other faiths and no faith.
- Disciplinary Literacy
- DEAR time – drop everything and read – bring a book!



Curriculum in Year 9

- **English** – reading a wide variety of texts including Animal Farm, Romeo & Juliet, Much Ado about nothing, War poetry and beginning GCSE study of the play DNA
- **Maths** – following a Mastery approach to build on knowledge from Y8 and develop all areas of maths, beginning GCSE content after Christmas
- **Science** – preparing for more advanced scientific study through topics such as 'Photosynthesis', 'Atomic Structure' and 'Pressure and moments'
- **History** – topics including the American Twenties, Hitler's rise to power, the Holocaust, the Home Front, the role of Women and how 9/11 has changed our world
- **Geography** – learning about urbanisation and climate change and beginning GCSE content after Easter



A collection of seven clay masks with various expressions, arranged in a grid-like pattern against a dark background. The masks are made of light-colored clay and show different facial features and emotions. Some have closed eyes, while others have wide-open eyes. The expressions range from serene to somewhat distressed or contemplative. The masks are arranged in three rows: three in the top row, one in the middle row, and three in the bottom row. The background is a solid dark color, making the light-colored masks stand out.

- [illegible]

here too add to theme

Curriculum in Year 8 & 9

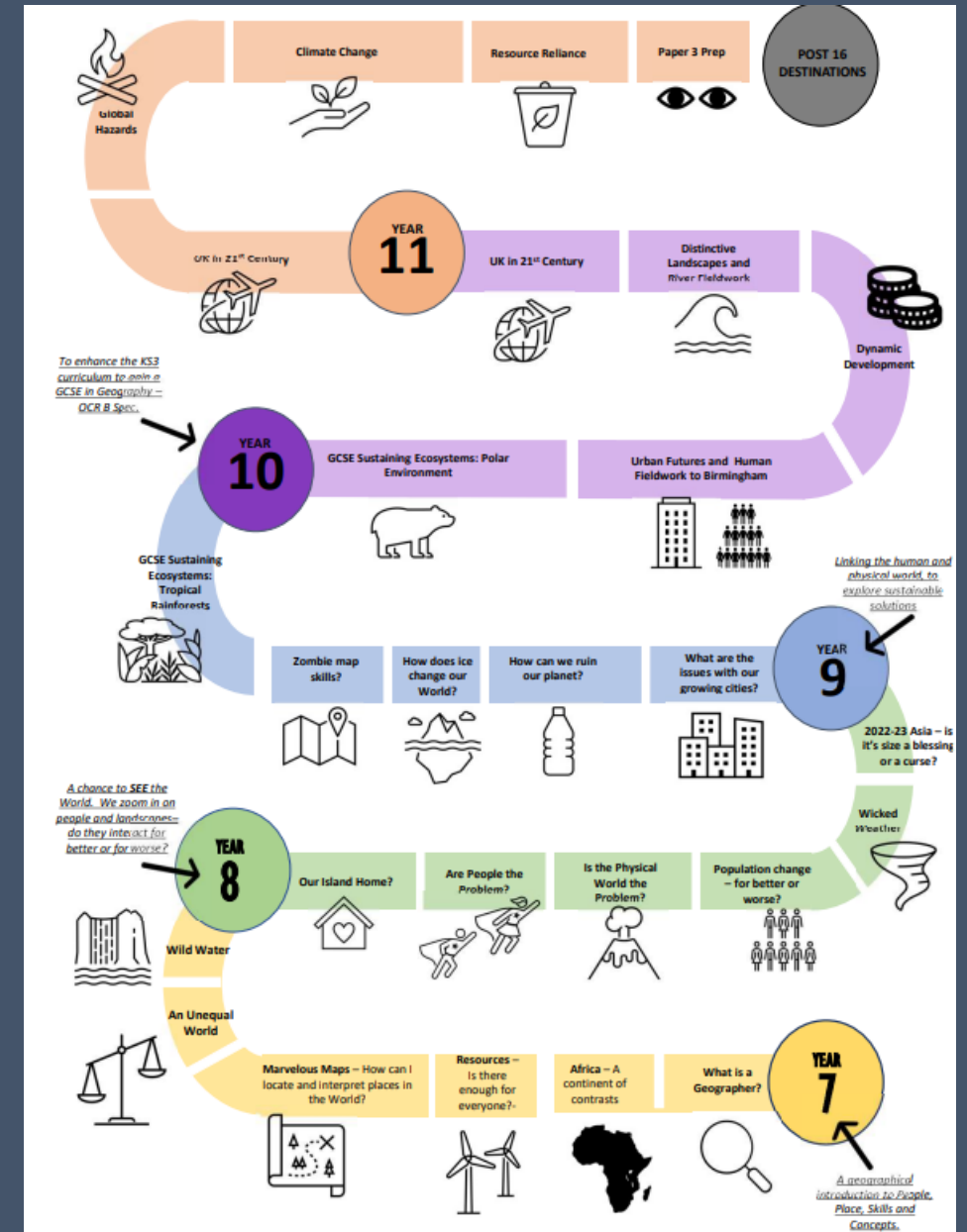
Further, more detailed information, can be found on the school website here:

[The Minster School - Subject Information](#)

Please scroll down and click on the subject you are interested in.

You can also watch a short video from Mr Wall which gives more details on how to find information on the website:

[Website Curriculum Guide - YouTube](#)



The Options process

- The Options process runs throughout the first half of the spring term.
- Students will be given an options booklet which gives information on the possible subjects for GCSE
- Parents' evening - Thursday 28th January online via SchoolCloud
- Options evening – Wednesday 10th February 6pm – 8pm in school
- Opportunity to speak to teachers and find out about the different options available for GCSE



Careers provision



There is a lot of support available for students in Year 9 including:

- Tutor time sessions covering skills, strengths and abilities, learning about the world of work, labour market information, post 16 and post 18 information
- Hidden roles in Business workshop
- National Careers Week events
- Unifrog
- Could you support The Minster School Careers Programme?

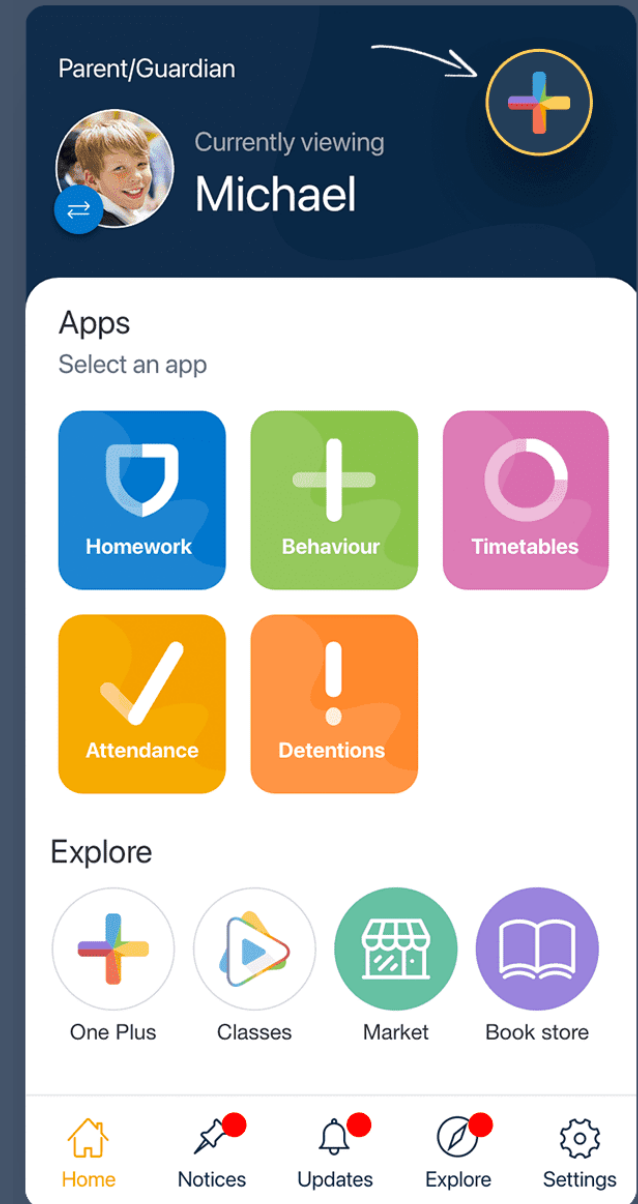


Year 8 and 9 - Satchel One

- Satchel One is our main method of communication with students.
- We expect students to check Satchel One daily.
- Range of homework tasks including rehearsal

How can I support my child with homework?

- Increasing independence
- Calm and tidy workspace
- Check Satchel One
- Healthy working habits including sleep
- Organisation



Assessment & Reports Year 8



Assessment point 1 – Wednesday 6th January

Including targets, competency and progress grades, effort, organisation and behaviour for each subject



Assessment point 2 – Wednesday 17th March

As AP1



Parents' evening – Thursday 22nd April 4pm – 7:45pm

Held virtually via the SchoolCloud platform – **minsterschool.schoolcloud.co.uk**



Assessment point 3 – Wednesday 7th July

This is a “Full Report” so includes data as AP1/2 but also will include teacher comments on your child's next steps.



Assessment & Reports Year 9



Assessment point 1 – Wednesday 2nd December

Including targets, competency and progress grades, effort, organisation and behaviour for each subject



Assessment point 2 – Wednesday 27th January

As AP1



Parents' evening – Thursday 28th January 4pm – 7:45pm

Held virtually via the SchoolCloud platform – **minsterschool.schoolcloud.co.uk**



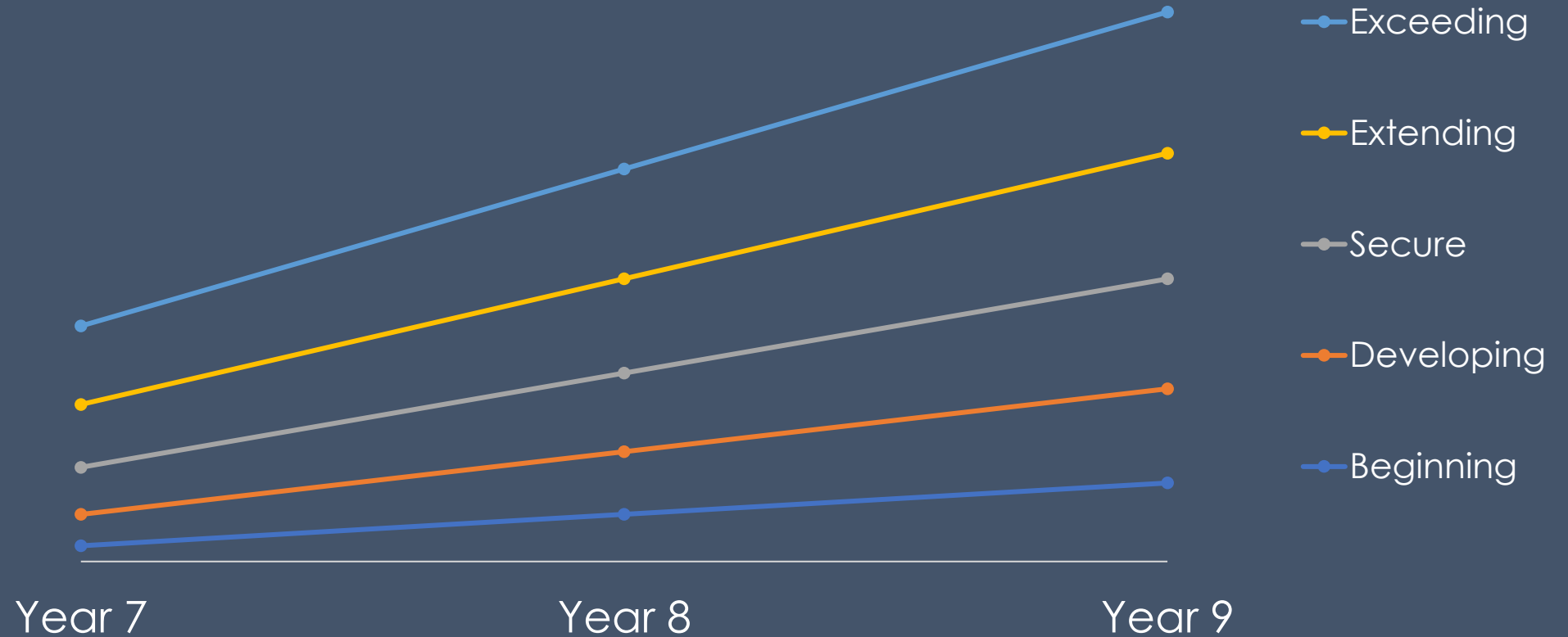
Assessment point 3 – Wednesday 19th May

This is a “Full Report” so includes data as AP1/2 but also will include teacher comments on your child's next steps.



Assessment & Reports

Chart Title



Preloved uniform



- Uniform collection – end of the year
- Donations throughout the year
- Please drop off any unwanted uniform at reception



Reduce,
Reuse,
Recycle



Extra-curricular activities

- We offer a diverse range of extra-curricular activities
- We would encourage as many students as possible to sign up for these.
- Most run afterschool from 3-4pm
- If there is an activity you are interested in which you would like us to set up, please let us know!



Extra-curricular activities

- Boys Football
- Girls Football
- Badminton
- Rugby
- Netball
- Basketball
- Table tennis
- Tennis
- Cricket
- Athletics
- Hockey
- Dance
- Boccia
- Orchestra
- Full Choir
- Chamber Choir
- Jazz Band
- Concert Band
- Brass Ensemble
- String Ensemble
- KS3 Music Theory Club
- Flute Ensemble
- Harp Ensemble
- KS3 Music Technology Club
- Training Orchestra
- Session Orchestra & Vocals
- Chamber Music Ensembles
- Beginner Brass Ensemble
- Junior Chamber Choir
- KS3 Drama Clubs
- Drama productions
- STEAM
- Warhammer
- Alliance
- Art Club
- KS3 German Club
- Debate Club
- Dungeons & Dragons Club
- Coding Club
- Creative Writing Club
- Minster Cares
- Ugive UChange
- Library Assistants
- Confirmation Club
- Musical theatre Productions (this year is Fame)



Trips and Enrichment

Black Country museum trip
STEAM day
Languages Day
Yorkshire Wildlife Park trip
Duke of Edinburgh
History London residential
Science London residential

Charity fundraising
House competitions
School Productions
Musical concerts
Minster relays
Maths Challenge
Piano Competition
End of term services
and much more...!



Keeping in touch

You can contact us:

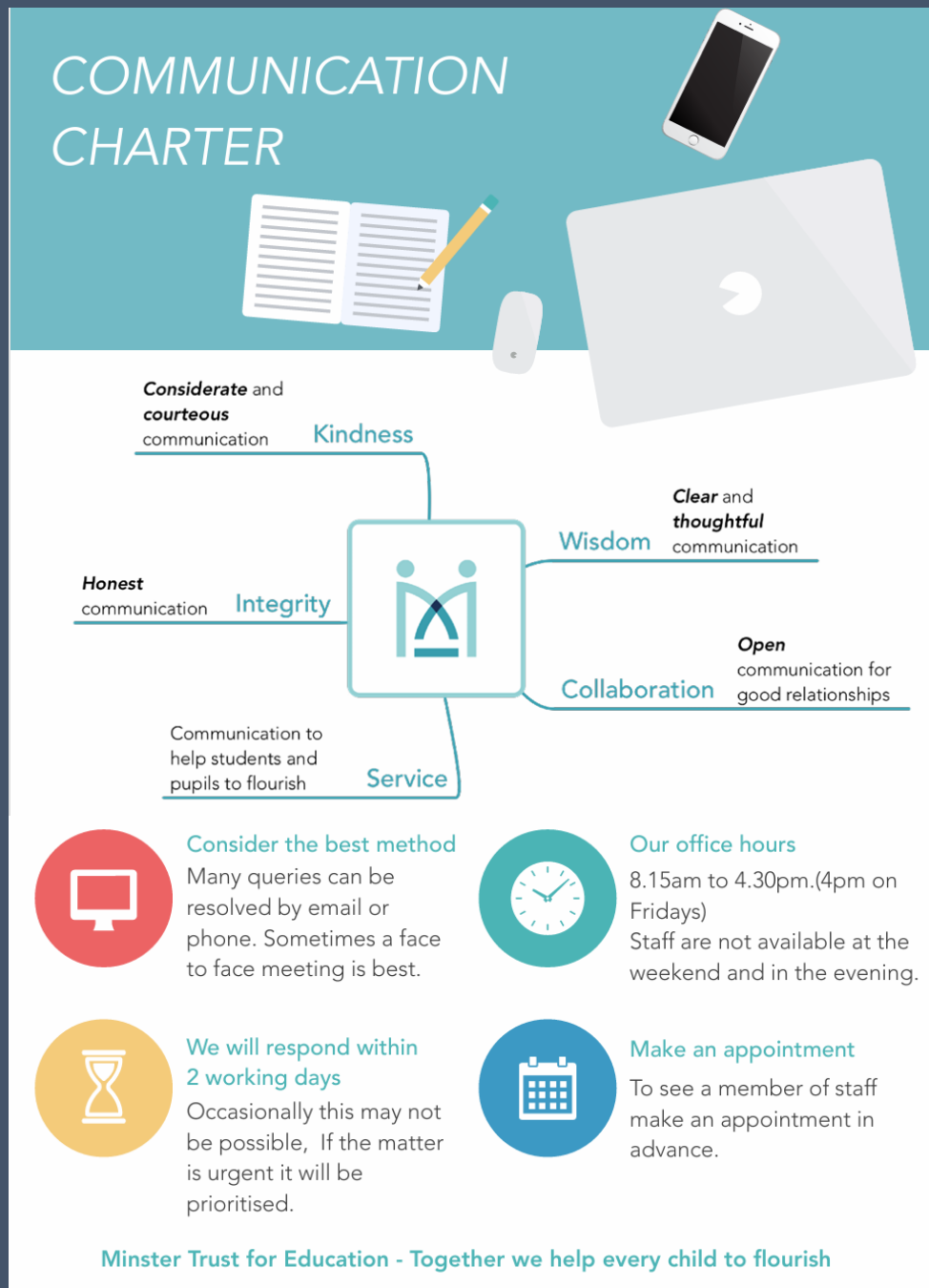
- School office
office@minsterschool.org.uk
Tel: 01636 814000
- Year Leader
i.roberts@minsterschool.org.uk
n.nesbitt@minsterschool.org.uk
- Attendance officer
attendance@minsterschool.org.uk
- Tutor (example)
a.surname@minsterschool.org.uk

We will contact you:

- Satchel One
- Emails from office
- WORKS Newsletter
- Website - www.minsterschool.org.uk
- Individual phone/email



Communication Charter



Thank You for listening

- Please take a Key Dates document
- Please come and speak to us if you would like any additional information or support
- Staff will be available in the break-out space



Key Dates for Parents & Students

Year 8 (Academic Year 2024 - 2025)

The information below details the key dates for Year 8 over their second year at The Minster School.

Date	Event
Wednesday 4th September	Year 8 Information Evening 6:45-7:15pm
Thursday 6th September	1st Day of School (Year 8-11)
Thursday 26th September	European Day of Languages
Friday 11th October	INSET Day
October Half Term: Monday 21st October – Friday 1st November	
W/B 25th November	Black Country Museum Trip/Steam Day
Thursday 12th December	Christmas Concert at Southwell Minster
W/B 16th December	Christmas End of Term Services
Wednesday 18th December	Y8 Assessment Point 1 report sent home
Christmas Holidays: Monday 23rd December – Friday 3rd January	
Thursday 9th January	Y8 Languages Day
W/B 3rd February	School Production
Friday 14th February	INSET Day
February Half Term: Monday 17th February – Friday 21st February	
Wednesday 12th March	Y8 Assessment Point 2 report sent home
Wednesday 19th March	Easter Concert at Southwell Minster
Tuesday 25th March	Piano Competition
Thursday 27th March	Y8 Parents' evening (online via SchoolCloud)
W/B 31st March	Easter End of Term Services
Easter Holidays: Monday 7th April – Monday 21st April	
Thursday 1st May	Junior Maths Challenge
May Half Term: Monday 26th May – Friday 30th May	
W/B 16th June	Y8 Science Trip to Yorkshire Wildlife Park
Wednesday 18th June	Y8 Full reports sent home
W/B 14th July	School Production
W/B 21st July	Summer End of Term Services
Friday 26th July	Last Day of Term
Monday 28th July	INSET day
Tuesday 29th July	INSET day

Please put the above dates in your diary and plan around them. There are numerous other events that happen during the school year, and we will send you more details as they come up. Please be aware that some dates may change during the year, and we will keep you updated on such changes.

As ever, if there is anything we can help with, please get in touch.



Who's who

Senior Leadership Team

Mr Chaloner – Head Teacher

Mr Wall – Deputy Head Teacher - Curriculum

Miss Goodhead – Deputy Head Teacher – Inclusion & Safeguarding

Mr Edwards – Assistant Head Teacher – Behaviour & Attendance

Mrs Lyons – Assistant Head Teacher – Teaching and Learning

Mrs Mazurkiewicz – Assistant Head Teacher – Achievement & PP lead

Mr Price – Assistant Head Teacher – SENCO

Mrs West – Assistant Head Teacher – Maths Hub

Pastoral Team:

Mr Brookes – Head of KS3

Mr Roberts – Year leader Y8

Ms Nesbitt – Year leader Y9

Mrs Pascual – Attendance officer

Careers support:

Ms Taylor – Careers lead

