

# **Useful Information for Parents/Carers of Year 7 Students**

The Autumn Term will begin on **Wednesday 3rd September 2025.** New Year 7 students are expected to be on the school site and in the playground by 8.20am.

# The First Day

Students should come to School with a well stocked pencil case for their lessons with items listed below.

Sharpened Pencils Ruler Metal Compass Scissors
Glue Stick Protractor Eraser Highlighters

Pencil Sharpener Writing Pens/Biros (Black, Blue, Red, Purple, Green)

**For Mathematics** - students will need to have a Geometry set and a Calculator. The calculator should be one of the following: Casio fx-83GT CW ClassWiz Scientific Calculator (suitable for Key Stage (KS) 3, acceptable for KS4) **OR** Casio fx-991 CW ClassWiz Advanced Scientific Calculator (suitable for KS3, 4 & 5). The Casio FX-991EX will be available to buy from the school at a competitive rate on ParentPay from September.

**Dictionaries for Languages** - students will need to purchase either a French or a Spanish dictionary once their allocated language is known.

### Uniform Expectations for Year 7 – Year 11

All students will endeavour to take pride in their appearance in school and on their way to and from school. All students must observe the School Dress Code as follows:

- School Blazer
- White Shirt (long or short sleeves) tucked into trousers
- School tie tie must cover all shirt buttons
- Top button done up
- Black leather formal polished shoes
- Charcoal grey or black trousers
- Navy V-neck school jumper (optional)
- Black or grey socks
- Black leather belt (optional)
- No Jewellery except a watch
- No piercings
- Dark plain outdoor coat or School branded coat (optional, but no hoodies or denim)
- Hair- no extremes of fashion
- Clean shaven or well-manicured, professional facial hair (unless for religious reasons)

The School uses Cladish & Co., Woodcote Road, Wallington as the provider for our blazers and ties.

It is important to know that in addition to purchasing new school uniform from Cladish, parents can also purchase second hand uniform from the PTFA.

An e-brochure from Cladish will be emailed to parents in the spring term of 2025. This brochure will detail special offers and bulk purchase discounts from Cladish, as well as how to make appointments for uniform fittings over the summer months.

### Absence

If your son is ill it is important that you inform the School on each day of his absence. You will need to inform the school as soon as possible; but preferably before 8.00am. This should be done via the completion of a Student Absence Reporting Form on the Wallington County Grammar School website here: <a href="https://www.wcgs-sutton.co.uk/page/?title=Absence&pid=70">https://www.wcgs-sutton.co.uk/page/?title=Absence&pid=70</a>

### Absence Reporting Form

On his return to school, a note must be given to your son's Form Tutor explaining the nature of his illness. If your son is suffering from sickness or diarrhoea, he should not return to school until 48 hours after the symptoms stop.

Please make appointments with doctors, dentists etc. out of school time. This should be done via the completion of a Student Absence Reporting Form at least three days before the appointment. Year Leaders/Student Services may ask for evidence. Parents/Carers should note that students who need to attend a doctor or dental appointment in School time should be collected from School by a parent/carer.

Should your son be ill in school then he should go straight to Student Services who will contact you should he be deemed ill enough to go home. Students are not to contact parents/carers by personal mobile phone before they visit Student Services to report that they are unwell. Mobile Phones must be switched off at all times and should only be used under the guidance or with the permission of a member of staff.

### **Student Planners**

A Student Planner will be issued to your son when he joins the school and is used as a means of a diary for students to write important reminders, as well as containing important information on how to get commendations at WCGS/ who to talk to at WCGS/ key pastoral numbers for support, etc.

New books will be issued at the beginning of each year and students will be expected to pay for any replacements at a cost of £4.00.

### **Home/School Agreement**

A Home/School agreement will be given to every student near the beginning of the academic year. This document should be taken home, read and signed by both student and parent/carer and then returned to the school.

### Lunchtime

The School café provides healthy breakfasts, morning break snacks and midday meals for which parents/carers pay through 'ParentPay' and students choose through our cashless catering, biometric system. Students may alternatively bring a packed lunch which should be eaten in the Café.

Students in years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 are not allowed to leave the premises during the day and it is not possible for students to go home for lunch because of the short lunch break.

### Cafe Menu, prices and allergen information

Information regarding our school cafe menu, prices and allergen information can be found in the Parents/Carers Information of the school website here: School Cafe

### **House System**

Wallington County Grammar School has a long-standing 'House' system and each student will be allocated to one of our 6 houses when they join the school. More information about the 'Houses' and their history is available to read on the Wallington County Grammar School website here:

House System

Your son's House allocation will be communicated to you via email. You will need this information before you can purchase house-specific items of PE or Sports kit.

### **PE/Games Kit**

# Students will need to bring with them their Games kit as listed below every <u>Friday</u> for their Games lesson:

House Rugby Shirt Football / Rugby Boots

Rugby Shorts Gum Shields (please see Opro leaflet)
Rugby Socks WCGS Waterproof Top (optional)

In addition to weekly Games on a Friday, each student will have 'core PE' lessons – referred to on their timetable as 'gy'. It is advisable that in the first week of term students bring in to school a WCGS rugby

top (Blue and Yellow stripes), PE shorts, white socks, clean trainers & studded boots (so students are not required to bring in all of their kit but should be prepared for being indoors or outdoors). Please refer to the Sport, PE & Games Kit Information on the School website for further information:

PE & Games Kit

The School is continuing its relationship with Tacklebag Ltd and is keen to ensure that this provider is supported by our parents when purchasing school sports kit: https://www.tacklebag.co.uk/wallington-county-grammar-school

It is hoped that Tackle Bag will again be available to hold pop-up shops at the school in the 2025 summer holidays. For dates and times of these visits, please refer to the Sport section of the WCGS website.

This will be for the collection of pre-ordered items or for exchange of goods, where Tackle Bag have already been notified that an exchange is needed. It is not possible for students to try on items on these days.

All Sports/PE kit must be ordered through Tacklebag.

### An Important Safety Message from the PE & Sports Department

There is now a very strong recommendation by the Rugby Football Union, the Hockey Association and the British Dental Association that all children should be fitted with gum shields. We have a very clear policy that the wearing of custom fitting mouth guards is strongly recommended whilst playing contact sports.

The quality of the mouth guards provided by OPRO and which are individually named are excellent, and in addition, the model of your child's mouth is kept by the OPRO laboratory, so that should one be needed, a replacement can be easily supplied at a lower cost. The mouth guard price also includes very comprehensive dental insurance in the event of injury.

If you wish to have an OPRO mouth guard made for your son, this will need to be done with OPRO directly: <a href="https://www.opro.com">https://www.opro.com</a>

It is likely that sometime in the summer term OPRO will provide the school with a communication which will then be emailed out to the new Year 7 parents giving instruction on how to order a custom fit mouthguard.

**Please note:** The school does not have any further involvement in the provision of mouth guards from our supplier – so in case of queries, please contact OPRO directly.

Mouth guards do not have to be purchased from OPRO, but if you decide to source a mouth guard independently, please ensure it is a good quality guard and ideally has a custom fit.

# Representing the School

Students are expected to place the School as a first priority when selected for extra curricular activities. It is an honour to represent the School and attendance at practises and School fixtures is required. At the beginning of both the Rugby (September) and the Cricket (March) seasons,

attendance at practices is compulsory for all students.

## School Trips in Year 7

A huge number of trips for Year 7 Students are run every year. Highlights from previous years include:

- A Food Tour of London's China Town
- The Harry Potter Experience
- Participating in the National Theatre's 'New Views' Project
- Visiting the Horniman Museum
- Visiting the Natural History Museum
- Visiting the Picasso Exhibition
- Visiting the Science Museum
- The Great North Trip to Durham and York
- Visiting London Zoo
- Taking part in the Young Voices concert at the O2 arena
- Watching Cats at the Epsom Playhouse

### **Care of Possessions**

All clothes and kit <u>MUST</u> be clearly marked with your son's name and the markings renewed regularly. Students must use their 'Valuables Bag' (see uniform list) which must be handed to a member of staff before each Games/PE lesson or hand in valuable items to a member of staff before each Games/PE lesson. Inexpensive watches only may be worn. Mobile telephones are welcome in school but must be switched off at all times. Any that are seen to be used inappropriately will be confiscated. The School takes no responsibility for any technological device and will not investigate any loss.

### **Interviews / Meetings**

Parents/carers have the opportunity to meet members of staff at Parents' Evening. These are held annually.

The main point of contact is your son's Form Tutor once your son joins our school, especially if you wish to give information about home circumstances. Parents & carers are reminded that should they wish to make an appointment to speak to the school in person about specific circumstances, they should contact their son's Year Leader through the main WCGS email system <a href="mailto:enquiries@wcgs.foliotrust.uk">enquiries@wcgs.foliotrust.uk</a> (which is the School's general email address) and mark the email with the name of their son's Year Leader.

# **Wallington County Grammar School Policies**

School policies and key documents are available via the About Us section of the school website. Policies can change and be updated and it is the parents/carers responsibility to ensure they are familiar with them.

# **The School Calendar**

The School Calendar can be found here: Calendar

Term Dates can be found here: <u>Term Dates</u>

### Insurance

The School has an insurance policy which covers accidental injury sustained during all school activities. Details are available on request.

### Disclaimer

The School is not responsible for the loss of any articles by pupils. Named items of lost property will be returned to their owners where possible. Unnamed items are disposed of at Second Hand Uniform Sales or are donated to charity at the end of each term.