



Transition

Frequently Asked Questions

If there is a question that isn't on this page that you would like answered, please email our dedicated email address – transition@highstorrs-mlt.co.uk If the question is specific to your circumstance, we will respond to you. It may be that your question is one that is being asked a lot, in which case we'll add it to this list.

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What do you mean by 'vertical form groups'?

We operate vertical forms here, which means that forms are made up of around 30 students from mixed year groups (Y7 – Y11). Forms typically meet at the beginning of each day for 15 minutes and your child will share their form with five or six other Year 7's. The rest of the form will be made up of children from other year groups.

Can my child visit the school building?

There is a virtual tour that you can do from the comfort of your own home. Please see the transition page on the website for this resource. There are opportunities to explore the school at the Y6 Open Evening on Thursday 28 September 2023 from 5.30pm to 8.00pm.

What will happen with the transition to Y7 in Summer 2024?

Please see our website and keep an eye on your email/post for letters. Confirmation regarding secondary admissions is normally communicated from the Local Authority on 1st March each year.

What does Crucible X and Y mean?

Teaching groups are made up of the Y7s from one half of a House. For example, Crucible House is made up of 60 Y7s, who are placed in one of 10 forms within Crucible House (Cr 01, Cr 02, Cr 03, Cr 04 etc.) Crucible 01 – Crucible 05 makes up one half of the House and these become a teaching group. Crucible 06 – Crucible 10 makes up the other half of Crucible House and these become the other teaching group.

Vertical Form	Teaching Group	Vertical Form	Teaching Group
Crucible 01	Crucible X	Lyceum 01	Lyceum X
Crucible 02		Lyceum 02	
Crucible 03		Lyceum 03	
Crucible 04		Lyceum 04	
Crucible 05		Lyceum 05	
Crucible 06	Crucible Y	Lyceum 06	Lyceum Y
Crucible 07		Lyceum 07	
Crucible 08		Lyceum 08	
Crucible 09		Lyceum 09	
Crucible 10		Lyceum 10	
Merlin 01	Merlin X	Montgomery 01	Montgomery X
Merlin 02		Montgomery 02	
Merlin 03		Montgomery 03	
Merlin 04		Montgomery 04	
Merlin 05		Montgomery 05	
Merlin 06	Merlin Y	Montgomery 06	Montgomery Y
Merlin 07		Montgomery 07	
Merlin 08		Montgomery 08	
Merlin 09		Montgomery 09	
Merlin 10		Montgomery 10	

Can I have input into which form and House my child is in?

A lot of children and parents/carers are anxious about the House and form into which their child will be placed. We understand this and it is completely natural! In order to allocate students a House and form, we use a mixture of data from primary feeders, and a whole host of other information (e.g. feeder school, ability, gender, ethnicity, additional needs, needs of other students in other years, form tutors etc.). It is a complex set of considerations, but one we manage as best we can. We only ask for input from parents/carers or children where there are specific needs that might be supported through this input. We do not place any child in a form based on parent requests or 'friendship requests' but instead take a huge number of considerations into account. We realise this is difficult but experience shows that for most children, this works really well (even for those who are unsure at the beginning).

Primary 'friendship requests' are not part of the considerations for the placement of most children. Our experience shows that most children settle into their new forms and teaching groups quickly and really enjoy the fresh start.

When will I know which House and form my child is in?

We have four Houses at High Storrs named after four well-known Sheffield theatres; Crucible, Lyceum, Merlin and Montgomery. You will find out which House your child has been allocated in time for the Transition Day in school. Form allocations will be shared on the day when children arrive for the Transition Day.

How often is my daughter/son taught with their teaching group?

The table below shows which lessons students are kept to these teaching groups (with the other Y7s in their 'half' of the House), and which are grouped differently.

Taught in Teaching Groups	Taught in other groupings
English Science PSHCEE (Personal, Social, Health, Citizenship and Economics Education) History Geography RPE Music / Art (on rotation) Dance / Drama (on rotation) IT /Classics (on rotation)	Maths French Technology (in smaller groupings) PE (boy/girl groupings)

More information about our curriculum, setting etc. can be found here.

<https://highstorrs.co.uk/learning/curriculum-information>

How can I reassure my child who is joining from a school that is not one of the main catchment schools?

We have around 40 - 50 Y7 students each year who come from a primary where there are 3 or fewer students coming with them. We normally have between 15 - 20 students who are coming to High Storrs with nobody else from their primary school. We make a special effort to ensure that students from non-catchment schools are well integrated. In addition to the main transition day in June (Wednesday 26th June 2024), we also invite students from non-catchment schools to an extra transition day (Wednesday 19th June 2024). If you would like us to put you in touch with another family who have a child coming on their own, please get in touch and we will do that if another family is interested.

What happens if my child is really nervous and quite down about this and won't even talk to us?

Your child may well be feeling anxious about transition, and you may well be too! This is not uncommon, and our experience shows that it will pass. It might be that talking about it whilst doing another activity like playing a sport, or going for a walk will help. We often find it easier to talk when we're doing something else. You can signpost your child to places online that might help (e.g. Young Minds, NSPCC). Encouraging them to talk to other students, or relatives and family friends may help. Finally, it may be that your primary school can help so do get in touch with them. If things are really challenging, do get in touch with us. We will do what we can to help.

How are admissions handled?

The school is an academy (part of Minerva Learning Trust) but Sheffield Local Authority manage the admissions on behalf of High Storrs School. This means that all admissions to the school are to be made through the Local Authority and any requests to transfer to the school are to be made via Sheffield Local Authority. Their contacts can be found on <https://www.sheffield.gov.uk/home/schools-childcare/apply-school-place>. Our Admissions Policy is on our website (<https://highstorrs.co.uk/our-school/policies-and-Forms>)

What do I do if I have a question that isn't on this FAQs?

Get in touch! We have a dedicated email address – transition@highstorrs-mlt.co.uk This will be checked a few times a week and we will endeavour to respond to as many emails as we can where individual responses are needed. It may be that your question is one that is being asked a lot, in which case we'll add it to this list of FAQs!