

Magna Academy Poole
an Aspirations Academy

TRANSITION HANDBOOK 2026

Contents

	Page
Welcome	1
Your Transition Timeline	2
Getting To Know Us	3-5
• The Senior Leadership Team	3
• The Phoenix Centre Team	4
• Our School System	5
Frequently Asked Questions	6-13
Contact Us	14

If you are using the online PDF version of this Handbook, you can simply click on the item in this contents list to jump immediately to the page required. To get back to this page, just click on the arrow symbol in the bottom right corner of each page.

You will find this symbol in the bottom right corner of each of the following pages. If you are using an online version of the Handbook, please click on this button whenever you wish to return to this Contents page.

Welcome

At Magna Academy, we believe that the key to a fulfilling life lies in the attitudes that people develop whilst they are young; attitudes towards other people and towards difficulty and uncertainty. Therefore everything we do is centred around students following our three guiding principles of Engagement, Purpose and Self Worth.

We have a strong, heartfelt sense of moral purpose and want all our students to build their capacity for independence through independant learning.

We fully appreciate and recognise that some things will be different when students join us at Magna Academy and that change can be both daunting and exciting.

In support of this, we have developed this handbook to help encourage students and their families to think about those changes and to provide them with useful information that will help everyone to feel more comfortable and confident with their secondary school transition.

We would like to assure you that we will do all we can to make the transition process for children from primary to secondary education as smooth and enjoyable as possible.

We will be regularly updating the admissions page on the Academy website with relevant information to support our families through the process.

We have an incredible team of staff dedicated to managing the transition process, who will soon be available to assist everyone, as outlined in our virtual transition timeline.

Please do not hesitate to contact the academy should you need any urgent support: [Contact Us](#).

Kindest regards

Mr Tucker
Year 7 Curriculum Co-ordinator





Your Transition Timeline

March

2 March: Offers made by BCP

13 March: Deadline for offers to be accepted/declined online via BCP

14 April: Acceptance letter and welcome pack to be sent to applicants who have accepted a place

May

8 May: Deadline for student entry form submission

June

16 June: Transition Evening and Transition Day letter sent to students/parents

25 June: Transition Evening

26 June: Transition Day

August

1 August: Deadline for Brigade uniform order

September

3 September: Year 7 start date

Getting To Know Us

The Senior Leadership Team



Mr Midworth
Executive Principal



Mr Tewkesbury
Vice Principal



Mrs Orchard
Vice Principal



Mrs Cook
Assistant Principal
Head of Webster School



Mr Hesketh
Assistant Principal
Head of Anning School



Mrs Kainth
Assistant Principal



Miss Ridge
Assistant Principal



Mrs Bishop
Assistant Principal
Head of Talbot School



Mrs Stafford
Assistant Principal



Mr Eldridge
Director of Business
& Operations

Aspirations Guiding Principles







Getting To Know Us

The Phoenix Team

Magna Academy believes that every student regardless of their Special Educational Needs or Disabilities (SEND) and/or Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) needs, has the right to receive the highest quality education, one that is appropriate to their needs, has high standards and the fulfilment of potential.

The support the Phoenix Centre team provides is different to or additional to what the majority of students receive.

The support is used to enable every student to achieve their best, become confident individuals and make a successful transition into adulthood.

The Phoenix team is committed to developing and promoting the learning for our students through a varied and targeted intervention which is reviewed continuously.

This intervention is built upon information shared through the feeder schools and as requested from parents/carers via the on-line virtual transition form.

Targeted Interventions may include:

- Learning profiles
- Group Literacy support
- 1:1 literacy support
- Emotional Literacy
- Handwriting support
- Social skills groups
- Communication groups
- Sensory room
- Wellbeing safe space at break and lunchtime



Our School System

We want every student to achieve academic and social success. We promote the sense of belonging through our School system alongside encouraging healthy competition.

The Schools within School system allows our students to experience different aspects of success, both personally and collectively. The Academy is divided into three internal schools, which comprise of two tutor groups per year group.

This allows students of all ages the opportunity to work together, creating a truly cohesive environment and ensuring that age is not a barrier to friendship and collaboration.

Each School has a designated Head of School who is the figurehead who will lead on pastoral support, tutor management and to promote opportunities for personal and team success.

Student ties will distinguish which School they represent:

- **Talbot School (Green)**
- **Webster School (Red)**
- **Anning School (Purple)**

Staff are also divided into each School and support all events, competitions and charitable opportunities.

This School system allows students to feel part of something bigger, outside of their year group and the wider academy community. Many competitions will see students compete against others from their own year group. However, the points awarded work vertically too, so not only are you gaining points for yourself and your individual tutor group, you are also contributing to your overall total.

This School system promotes the opportunity for students to develop; Individual leadership skills, communication skills and the ability to work collaboratively as part of a team. All of these essential skills for life after Magna. Certain leadership roles will be formed as a result of the system, e.g. School Captains, Sports Captains, as well the well-established Student President position.

This School system supports students and staff to feel more connected and involved with, the community around them. It facilitates discussions between the most junior and most senior members of the academy and fosters a healthy competitive spirit along the way.



Frequently Asked Questions

What is the structure of the academy day like?

Students can enter the academy between 8.00am and 8.27am. Students must enter and/or exit using the student gate. For safeguarding practices the academy gates are locked daily between 8:30am and 3:00pm.

We have academy bells throughout the day. Students must always wait for the teacher's permission before entering and leaving the classroom. Whilst walking between lessons student must do so in a calm and orderly manner demonstrating respect for others and the academy community.

These are the times of the academy day for all KS3 students:

Event	Time
Line Ups for all students	8:27am
Registration & Tutor time	8:30am
Lesson 1	9:00am
Lesson 2	9:55am
Break	10:50am
End of break	11:05am
Lesson 3	11:10am
Lesson 4	12:05pm
Lunch	13:00pm
Line ups	13:30pm
DEAR	13:35pm
Lesson 5	14:05pm
Departure from School	15:00pm

What are line-ups?

Line-ups provide an opportunity for expectations to be set to all students at two set times during the day. Line-ups take place before AM tutor time and PM DEAR time.

At line-ups tutors and students work together to correct students' uniforms, give out notices and to ensure students are in their tutor groups for AM and PM registers to be completed.

What will students do during tutor time?

We recognise that every student in our care is an individual with different needs and hopes. We are meticulous in ensuring that our tutoring is carefully matched to the learning needs of each individual student.

Once seated after the line-up the tutor takes the register, completes daily checking exercises such as homework completion, uniform and equipment to ensure that students are prepared for the day ahead.

The tutor then leads the activity as per the weekly activity rota. These include literacy/numeracy tasks, Drop Everything And Read (DEAR), competitions & community tasks and the personal development curriculum.

Once a week students will have a House assembly based around a theme for the week. The theme could be in line with a year group priority or associated national/internal awareness event.

Students are carefully placed into their new tutor groups on arrival in Year 7. We use a variety of information received from parents/carers and the feeder schools to support us with this important process and we also request nominated friendship groups via our online student entry form.

We will always try our best to place students accordingly but, we cannot make any promises regarding requested friendship groupings.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is DEAR?

Drop Everything and Read (DEAR). Reading for pleasure is integral to student's development and it is key to developing their understanding of the wider world in and out of school.

As students progress through the academy, the extent to which reading is required to access the curriculum increases greatly. Reading for pleasure at the age of 15 is a strong factor in determining future social mobility.

After lunch students attend their line-up and return to their tutor group.

Throughout Year 7, students will study a number of books from a variety of genres which are designed to enhance their reading as well as support topics covered within the English curriculum. Tutors expertly model high-quality reading to help improve a student's level of literacy and to engage them in enjoyable books to promote reading for pleasure.

What is the Personal Development Curriculum?

Tutors will be responsible for delivering the personal development curriculum to their tutor group as part of their tutor time rotation of activities.

The personal development curriculum objectives focus on the following areas:

- Relationships and Sex Education (RSE),
- Health and Wellbeing,
- Staying Safe Online and Offline,
- Life Beyond School (Futures),
- Celebrating Diversity and Equality
- Rights, Responsibilities and British Values
- Effective Revision
- Citizenship - political and economic understanding and awareness
- Theology & Ethics

At the end of a unit of work, students will complete a 'no-stakes' multi-choice quiz per unit and a chance to be awarded house points.

What will students be learning in Year 7?

At Magna Academy, our Key Stage 3 curriculum is delivered across Years 7 to 9.

Students will study a wide range of subjects in line with the National Curriculum recommendations which includes:

Key Stage 3 Curriculum Subjects	Number of Lessons per fortnight
English Language and Literature	8
Maths	8
Science	8
History	4
Geography	4
Spanish	4
Core Physical Education	4
Music	2
Art	2
Theology and Ethics	1
Food/Product Design/IT/Performing Arts (5 week rotations)	5

English, Maths, History, Geography and Theology & Ethics will be taught in their tutor groups by our Year 7 tutor team, as well as Personal Development, Tutor Numeracy, Literacy Development and Drop Everything and Read (DEAR) during tutor time.

Science, Music, Art, Modern Foreign Language and Core Physical Education will be taught by our subject specialists at Magna Academy.

Frequently Asked Questions

How will students be placed into teaching groups?

At the start of Year 7, students will sit the GL CAT4 Cognitive Abilities Test and New Group Reading Tests (NGRT). These assessments will form part of the student profile, along with their Key Stage 2 outcomes and feeder school transfer information.

This information will also assist in the identification of those students who require initial intervention support, establishing targets for the end of Key Stage 4 and support in the initial setting of students when they arrive in Year 7. It is important to note that not all subjects set the students by their ability..

How/when will students be assessed?

Knowledge Retrieval Tests
Depending on the number of lessons in a two-week cycle, each subject will set a minimum of one knowledge retrieval test every two weeks. This is a low-stakes test, identifying gaps in a student's knowledge and to embed the knowledge learnt. These will always be peer/self-marked and questions that are frequently incorrectly answered should prompt a review of the teaching of that content.

They should also form areas of focus for the next lessons. This knowledge will inevitably be based upon the students' knowledge organiser, within that subject for that unit.

End of Topic/Unit Tests
Each subject will assess students at regular intervals throughout an academic year. The timings of these assessments will be appropriate for that subject, and taken at the end of each topic. Each subject 'assessment journey' will be displayed on our website

These assessments will assess what has been taught within the topic, and are pre planned within the subjects' curriculum. The assessment design for each subject has been carefully planned during the 7-year subject curriculum, building upon the recall and application of knowledge when appropriate.

These assessments will also support the student development of examination skills over time. An attainment band will be assigned to the level the student achieved relating to their Age Related Expectations (ARE).

End of Year Examinations
Year 7 students will sit an assessment point examination in english and maths at the end of the year.

This is in addition to their regular end of topic tests, and will last 50 minutes.

They will be marked by the class teacher, moderated within the department, and an attainment band will be assigned to the level the student achieves.

How and when will students' progress be reported?

Each student will have his or her attainment formally recorded for each subject twice a year.

Reports will be generated after each Assessment Point (AP1 & AP2), which will be shared with students and their parents/carers. There will be a subject parents evening during the academic year.

For all year groups, reports will indicate the attainment that the student has made within each of their subjects, in line with Age Related Expectations.

In addition to a students' attainment data, teachers/tutors will report on a student's:

- Attitude to Learning – tutor and subject teachers
- Behaviour – tutor and subject teachers
- Homework completion and quality – tutor and subject teachers where applicable
- Personal Organisation – tutor only
- Attendance and Positive & Negative Behaviour Summary - will be systematically generated and included

Our academic year is divided into 6 equal units for teaching and assessing. Parents/carers will receive an annual assessment letter early in September, which maps out key dates and events throughout the academic year.

Frequently Asked Questions

How much homework will students get?

We believe that homework is essential to learning.

It extends a student's independence and is an opportunity to learn key knowledge, know more and remember more. All students receive homework each day which should take approximately 1 hour.

Students will follow a weekly homework grid for each unit. All tasks are to be completed in full. Tutors will check self-quizzing each morning and departments will check the completion of Sparx tasks on a weekly basis.

Week A - Self-Quizzing:

- Students should self-quiz for 30 minutes on the questions set in the homework grid, using the Look, Cover, Write, Check method.
- Corrections using a green pen.

Week B - Effective Revision:

- Students have the choice to replace self-quizzing with multiple effective revision techniques including mind maps, retrieval clocks or flashcards.
- Students will need to keep a daily revision log in their self-quizzing exercise books with evidence of techniques used to show their tutors.
- Each page will need to be dated and content kept neat and tidy following our self-quizzing expectations.

Sparx Maths:

- Students are expected to achieve 100% correct answers or, if this is not possible, to show that they have spent over 60 minutes on the tasks.

Sparx Reader:

- Students will be required to achieve a minimum of 400 Sparx Reader Points (SRPs) per week. The estimated completion time is up to 60 minutes.

Sparx Science:

- Students are expected to achieve 30 questions answered correctly or, if this is not possible, to show that they have spent over 30 minutes on the tasks.

Year 7 will be given a tutorial during their first week at Magna as part of our 'Be Awesome' induction programme. There is also a daily homework support club and breakfast club on offer to all students.

What do students need to know about the Academy uniform and appearance expectations?

Essential items of uniform, e.g. Academy blazer, skirts and some items of PE kit, are only available from the Academy uniform suppliers, Brigade Schoolwear.

Click here to access the Brigade website or type the following address into your browser:

https://www.brigade.uk.com/parents/school/MA7555PD/

Please follow the guidance provided on their website along with our uniform policy and size guide.

On-line orders and delivery will take an estimated 10-14 days.

Please add an academy tie to your uniform order.

The tie will be sent directly to the Academy where they will be distributed to students on their first day at the academy as part of their induction and welcome experience.

Students are expected to wear full academy uniform on the way to and from the Academy. Full uniform and equipment checks will be carried out by tutors, each morning during tutor time.

The deadline to ensure delivery before the start of term: 1 August 2026.

Full list of Academy Uniform and appearance expectations

Uniform	Acceptable	Not acceptable
Blazer*	Magna Academy Poole Blazer	No blazer / Rolled up sleeves Any garment other than school jumper and shirt underneath
Jumper^	Magna Academy Poole V-neck jumper / Any black V-neck jumper	Sweatshirt / Hooded top Fleece /Tracksuit / Waistcoat Cardigan
Skirts	Plain black skirt Vent worn at the back Sits on the knee	Rolled up skirts Stretchy fabric No pleats Slits anywhere but at the back

Frequently Asked Questions

Full list of Academy Uniform and appearance expectations (continued)

Uniform	Acceptable	Not acceptable
Trousers	Plain black / Tailored Full length (no ankle showing) Any belt should be plain black	Fashion trousers (denim/ corduroy/other materials/ hipsters/flares/wide bottoms/ bootlegs/skinny trousers/lycra) Tight fitting Studs, visible buttons or trimmings Shorts / Stretchy material / Leggings
Shorts	Smart black, tailored, classic style Must be knee length To be worn on the waist only, no hipster styles The academy reserves the right to ask students te wear skirt/ trousers in the event that their shorts do not follow our policy	Jean type material, corduroy or lycra Tight fitting Visible studs, patterns, buttons embellishment or trimmings External cargo-style pockets
Shirt	Plain white collared shirt. Can be short or long sleeved. Tucked in. Top button fastened	Casual/fashion shirt/ Polo shirt / Shirt worn without a tie or with tie tucked in Sports/hooded tops or coloured t-shirts under shirts Shirts worn outside trousers Exposed midriff
Tie*	Magna Academy Poole clip-on tie	Ties that are not clip-on or where the clip has broken off - these must be replaced immediately

Uniform	Acceptable	Not acceptable
Shoes	Plain black flat shoes Laces, soles and stitching must be black	Trainers (even if black) / Boots / Skate shoes / Sandals / Fashion/coloured shoes / Flip flops / Clog type shoes / Coloured/Fluorescent laces / Canvas/fabric shoes or pumps / Trimmings i.e. buckles, labels, tags or decorations High heels / Stilettos/Platforms / Wedges / Sandals/Sling Backs / Backless shoes
	Note: The Academy reserves the right to decide what represents a trainer, even when the retailer has marketed the shoe as suitable for school.	
Socks/Tights	Plain black ankle socks covering the ankle bone Plain black tights	Coloured or patterned socks or tights Bare feet
Make Up	Light foundation, light mascara, clear lip gloss ONLY	Make up other than that listed Nail varnish / Nail extensions / False eyelashes/spot stickers
Jewellery	Maximum of two small plain gold or silver stud earrings (one in each ear) Medical earring (this counts as the single earring) One wristwatch	Extra/Large jewellery of any kind Any facial or body piercing No accessories are to be worn around the neck or attached to clothing.
Hairstyles	Smart style Natural hair colours only Hair must be tied up on request for all practical lessons	Headwear, unless worn on the basis of ethnicity, religion, belief or disbility Tram lines or other shaved shapes / Unnatural colour / Decorative attachments to be worn in the hair / Hair extensions 'Barcodes' in eyebrows
	Note: The Academy reserves the right to decide if a hairstyle is inappropriate but invites students and parents/carers to ask in advance if they need guidance.	

Frequently Asked Questions

Full list of Academy Uniform and appearance expectations (continued)

PE Kit	Acceptable	Not acceptable
PE t-shirt*	Magna Academy regulation black t-shirt (with logo) Plain black t-shirt or polo shirt	Any other coloured t-shirt Excessive logos
Shorts	Plain black shorts (not lycra) Plain black skort* Must not be shorter than a hand above the knee (approx 6")	No other colour Shorter than a hand above the knee (approx 6") Tight fitting shorts Lycra material Excessive logos
Tracksuit ^	Plain black tracksuit bottoms	Excessive logos Any other colour
Leggings	Plain black, opaque sports leggings	Patterned leggings Fashion leggings See through
PE Hoodie^	Magna Academy blue PE hoodie Plain black sports hoodie	Alternative outer layers, including coat Magna V-neck jumper
Socks	Magna Academy Poole black and blue football socks White sport socks/trainer socks	Non regulation football socks No other colour ankle/trainer socks
Trainers	Running trainers or Astroturf shoes (non-marking soles) Football boots, when requested^	Fashion sport footwear Skate shoes / Plimsolls / Hightops
Extras^	A plain black base layer to be worn under the black polo shirt Hairband – all long hair must be tied up during all PE lessons. Water bottle **Highly recommended:** Shin pads / Gum shield (can be purchased online via ParentPay)	

Drama	Acceptable	Not acceptable
	Non slip socks	Bare feet / Regular socks

Dance	Acceptable	Not acceptable
	Same black clothing as PE kit Footwear- non slip socks, bare feet, ballet or jazz shoes Hairband - all long hair must be tied up during all practical dance lessons Water bottle highly recommended	Regular socks Trainers

* Purchased from the academy supplier, link found on the academy website
^ Non-compulsory item

All items of clothing including a students PE kit should be clearly named. Remember, there are almost 900 students here at Magna Academy all with exactly the same uniform and kit.

What equipment will students need?

At Magna, we always set the highest expectations for our students in order to raise their aspirations and enable them to achieve. By producing a list of equipment that students require, we are helping prepare them for the world of work and maximising every opportunity to be successful. Full uniform and equipment checks will be carried out by tutors, each morning during tutor time.

Compulsory Equipment

Item	Cost to buy from Magna Academy
30cm long, clear pencil case	£1.00
Helix Maths Set	£2.00
30cm ruler	£0.50
Compass	£0.50
Protractor	£0.20
Safe Compass	£2.50
Casio FX 85GTX Calculator	Not available to buy from the Academy
3 x Black or Blue Pens	Not available to buy from the Academy
3 x HB Pencils	Not available to buy from the Academy
Highlighter Pens	Not available to buy from the Academy
1 x Whiteboard Pen	One provided by the Academy*
1 x Green Pen	One provided by the Academy*

* *Can be exchanged*

Highly Recommended Equipment Items

Coloured Pencils / Glue / Scissors / Rubber / Pencil Sharpener
(not available to purchase from the Academy)

Frequently Asked Questions

How are students rewarded/recognised for their hard work?

Effort and success in all aspects of Academy life are celebrated through a range of rewards and events.

We actively listen to student voice and we offer them positions of leadership that have meaningful responsibilities. Students who feel listened to and are leaders will build their self-worth and engage fully in learning, developing a sense of purpose that will make a positive difference to others.

What is the behaviour policy like?

We would like to encourage all students and their families to read our behaviour policy in detail before students arrive at the academy. The policy also includes information regarding the Uniform/Equipment policy inc. jewellery and hairstyles, mobile phones and electronic devices.
Students have the responsibility of behaving within the expectations of the policy. This shows a level of maturity that allows them to recognise the rights of other students to learn and staff to teach. Students will gain recognition and rewards for positive behaviours.

Our academy aims to:

- Encourage a positive relationship with parents/carers through effective communication
- Promote a safe, calm, orderly and positive environment
- Establish clear routines and high expectations across all aspects of the Academy life, which are commonly understood
- To ensure that all aspects are applied consistently and fairly
- Establish long term impact of enjoyment, engagement and positive outcomes
- Create a well-established culture of praise and encouragement in which all students can develop, progress and achieve

Are students allowed to use mobile phones in the academy?

As a safeguarding measure we allow students to have mobile phones with them whilst at the academy for use on the way to or from the academy. Students must ensure that their mobile phones are switched off and in school bags, when in the academy, between the hours of 8.15am and 4.00pm (inclusive of extra-curricular activities).

Students must ensure that all electrical devices are used within the guidelines of our e-safety policy. Any electronic devices that are brought into the academy are at the risk of the owner, the academy will not be liable for any damages or loss.

What enrichment opportunities are on offer?

Enrichment at Magna Academy provides an opportunity for students to extend their learning outside of the standard curriculum offer. It also provides students with many new and different experiences.

Enrichment opportunities increase motivation, achievements and supports retention. Valuable links within the local community help to promote our academy to prospective students and parents, which fosters a sense of community and cohesion within our academy.

At Magna there are many enrichment opportunities organised before, during and at the end of the academy day - as well as opportunities for trips. Students will develop essential skills including teamwork, practical work and creative opportunities that will encourage problem solving and communication.

Many enrichment opportunities will see students representing Magna Academy, whether it is for a sporting team, competing in the maths challenge or being part of a STEM project. What is offered may change throughout the year, most likely termly. Some activities will run for the duration of the year.

When taking part in enrichment activities,students have the opportunity to grow personally, develop further knowledge and skills, as well as contributing to a more cohesive community. Attendance to enrichment activities will earn house points that will go towards a variety of rewards throughout the academic year.

What if a student carries/requires medication?

If students need to take prescribed medicine while at the academy they need to make sure that the Medical Team knows. Parents/carers must fill in a medication consent form and bring it into the academy along with the prescribed medicine. This needs to be clearly labelled with the student's name and tutor group and taken to the Medical Room.

In the case of Epipens the child would be required to carry one additional one in their bag in addition to the one stored in the medical room. Students who require inhalers should also ensure they carry this on their person.

If students require paracetamol / ibuprofen during the academy day, they will be permitted to carry a maximum of 2 of each on their person to be used as directed by parent / guardian. Students should not carry any more than this amount on them and should not under any circumstances give them to any other student, breaches of this will result in a sanction.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the food like?
Do students need to bring in money each day?

We are really lucky to have a lovely Academy dining hall. The dining hall is open during breakfast, break time and lunchtime. Hot and cold food can be bought there and a three week menu is displayed to tell students what breakfast, lunch, vegetarian and lighter bite options are available. The catering team are also very inclusive of catering for any additional dietary requirements.

Cashless Catering

This system incorporates the latest technology and eliminates the need for students to carry cash throughout the day thus reducing the risk of loss. As it is biometric, there is no need for students to carry a card, as the system will recognise the thumb or finger print of the child at the pay points and at the tills.

Any amount of money can be paid into a student's account on ParentPay and any money spent on food and drink will be deducted on a daily basis. To support parent/carers with managing daily spends there is a £7.50 daily limit set for expenditure.

As part of the academy welcome pack parents/carers would have received a 'Biometric information' letter. Under the Protection of Freedoms Act 2012 (sections 26 to 28), we are required to notify each parent of a child and obtain the written consent of at least one parent before being able to use a child's biometric information for an automated system. There is a section on the Arbor Registration for you to give consent or object for the use of biometrics for this.

As part of the induction process, students will be set up with a biometric account. This is normally completed for all students on the first academy day in September with a further day arranged for any students that were not able to attend. We ask that students bring a packed lunch on their first day while the system updates with this information. Students eligible for free school meals will receive a packed lunch on this day from our catering team.

Students eligible for free school meals will be set up on the school system and a daily allowance for a meal is automatically arranged. If parents/carers have any questions regarding this please contact the academy main office.

The dining staff will tell students which rooms you can eat these in or they can go outside and enjoy their lunch on one of the many picnic benches

How do we find out more about free school meals?

We are aware that some of our families have recently experienced a change in financial circumstances. Consequently, some children may now be eligible for a Free School Meal (FSM).

If your child currently receives FSM, this will cease at the end of their Primary Phase of education. If you believe that they should continue to be eligible you will need to re-apply to BCP in July 2026. BCP will not process these applications until July/August 2026 as they will need to do current eligibility checks with HMRC.

Free school meals are available to children in receipt of, or whose parents are in receipt of, one or more of the following benefits:

- Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods)
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

If parents/carers consider their child meets the eligibility criteria for FSM but does not currently receive one, they should complete a short application form, which can be found at:
https://www.bcpcouncil.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/free-school-meals

Parents/carers will need to provide BCP Council with their National Insurance number and date of birth where they can check a possible entitlement online through a secure website provided by the Department for Education.

This means that any paper evidence may not need to be sent in and an entitlement will continue to be received until BCP are told otherwise.

The Department for Education records will normally confirm whether or not a student is entitled to FSM. However, in some cases these records may not detect the qualifying benefit, in which case paper evidence will need to be provided.

Even if parents/carers wish to provide a packed lunch each day once students return to school, it is beneficial for their child and the school to complete the FSM application as the school is able to claim extra funding called Pupil Premium.

Pupil Premium is additional funding from the Government to help improve the attainment of children receiving a FSM and looked after children.

Academy leaders decide how to spend this funding however, a detailed report is published every year on our academy website.

Frequently Asked Questions

Contact Information

Magna Academy Poole
Ashdown Close, Canford Heath, Poole
Dorset BH17 8RE
01202 604222

email: office@magna-aspirations.org

website: www.magna-aspirations.org



GDPR:

Click here to read Staff Privacy Notice

Click here to read Student Privacy Notice