



Thornhill Academy

Enriching Lives, Inspiring Ambitions

Dear Parent/carer,

We are really looking forward to working closely with you in the next 5 years of your child's time with us at Thornhill Academy.

Without swamping you with information, here are some key things we think you will want to know over the summer. If there is anything else that you want to know about, please contact the enquiries email address, thr-enquiries@consilium-at.com, and we will ensure someone gets back to you.

Start of term arrangements

Monday 5th September is an INSET day for staff.

All students start back at school on Tuesday 6th September. Students should be in the school yard for 8.30am ready to be collected by form tutors. They will spend period 1 with their tutor and will receive their school timetable. They will then be supported to get to their lessons for the rest of the week.

Uniform

Enclosed within this letter is a booklet about uniform expectations, please read it carefully and if you have any questions, please contact our enquiries email. Our uniform is sensible and affordable, but we expect it to be worn well and according to the guidance we give.

Our trust provides a tie for all our year 7 students, this will be issued when they arrive on the first day. This is a full tie which students need to learn how to tie. Some students prefer a clip-on tie, these can be purchased from Little Gems in Sunderland, our uniform provider.

As part of their uniform, students should also have a school bag. This should be large enough for them to carry PE kit and any other daily essentials. Our advice would be that it should be large enough to hold an A4 file in terms of size.

When they first start, it is likely to still be quite warm and an outdoor coat will probably not be necessary, but their outdoor coat should be a dark coloured coat which will keep them warm and dry in the winter months. Hoodies and outer layer jackets are not allowed.

Equipment

All students should bring a pen, pencil, and ruler as the minimum expectation for equipment. We strongly encourage them to be independent with a pencil case with additional pens and pencils and other stationery items.

Breakfast Club

We have a breakfast club that operates from the dining hall each day from 8.00am until 8.40am. Students can get a drink, bagels and cereal, this is free to all students. We recommend this to all students as a great place to meet up with friends, get breakfast and ensure they are on time for school.



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Communication with School & School Lunches

We use a range of apps to ensure that we can communicate effectively with parents and parents can also communicate with staff. This two-way communication is essential to ensure we have the information required to support our young people. Class Charts and the Parent App allow you to track the academic progress, attendance, homework and behaviour of your child whilst in school whilst also enabling direct communication with staff.

Within school we operate a cashless payment system via the app Parent Pay. This allows you to pre-pay for lunches and pay for other in school activities. School lunches cost £2 per day for a meal deal which includes a hot lunch and a dessert or bottle of water alternatively a cold lunch, drink and dessert. Additional items can be purchased in addition to the meal deal. We offer a cashless system within the school restaurant and biometric thumbprint will be taken on the first day in school. If your child is entitled to free school meals £2 will automatically be added each day to student accounts. If you are unsure if you are entitled to free school meals, then please check your eligibility via our website or via the link below:

[Online FSM Application \(cloudforedu.org.uk\)](https://cloudforedu.org.uk)

Login details for these applications are included within this pack of information. We recommend you download these apps in advance of the start of the new term and upload money for school lunches to avoid the need for your child to bring cash into school.

Term dates

At Thornhill we follow the local authority holidays. We feel this supports families with children in primary school. Our term dates can be found on our website and on the local authority website.

We have the following INSET days:

Monday 5th September 2022

Monday 31st October 2022

Friday 25th November 2022

We are very much looking forward to working together in partnership from September. Please always remember that communication is essential and if you have any questions, always contact us.

Have a lovely summer,

Sue Hamilton
Headteacher