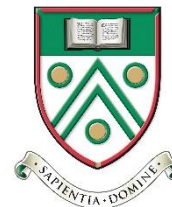


# Year 7 Parents' Information Evening

27 September 2022

## Questions & Answers from the meeting



### Curriculum

#### ***Is there any school maths website for kids?***

The maths department use [www.mymaths](http://www.mymaths) support the curriculum, including setting exercises on it for homework tasks.

#### ***Are the topics taught in the school are enough or do the kids need to dig deeper at home?***

The curriculum coverage in school is certainly "enough". However, we would always encourage students to research, read around or dig a bit deeper into a subject if it particularly interests them – and to tell their teachers about what they have found out.

#### ***Do the children need to study at home or is the homework curriculum enough for year seven student?***

The school's curriculum is suitably stretching for most able children. Homework and classwork should be sufficient to enable students to make good progress in their knowledge and understanding. However, but we are aiming to foster a love of learning independently, so would always encourage them to find out a bit more if they have a particular interest in a subject.

#### ***French - I didn't know that you do French as well. My son told me you don't have French!!! Any chance he can join that as he is not enjoying German?***

#### ***With regards to second language, my son got French this year will it be same every year?***

This part of the curriculum was explained in the parents meeting back in June. Three forms start with French in Year 7, and three with German. Every form will have their language lessons at a different time and it is not possible to swap languages. Each form then picks up the other language in Year 8, while still maintaining their study of the 'first' language. They then choose either French or German to study in depth from Year 9 through to GCSE level in Year 11. Students should talk to their class teacher if they are having trouble and they will be able to provide support – at this stage it is probably simply not having any experience with the language.

#### ***How are assessments carried out?***

Assessments will be carried out in a variety of ways, depending on what is most suitable for the class and the subject. For example, PE, Music, Art, Drama, Technology will all have a heavier focus on practical assessment. Science will likely be a mixture of theory and practical. MFL will do more vocabulary tests. Teachers will use a variety of techniques throughout the year including end of unit assessments and quick "temperature checks" throughout the year in the form of Q&A sessions in class, quick quizzes and key words tests.

### CATs, reports etc

#### ***Will we receive CAT scores?***

CATS scores will be shared with you when we have received them.

#### ***CATs and KS2, are they both used for predictions? How does CAT scores affect children?***

CATS are used to give staff an idea about student's potential in a subject. They do not impact a student in any way. More information will be given about the CATs and what the scores mean at the next meeting

#### ***When will we receive the first report?***

We have three reporting occasions during the year. The first of these is the 'pastoral review' in November where you can meet your child's form tutor for a discussion about their progress and their attitude to learning.

## Clubs and activities

### ***When will the computing club start?***

Computing club - or programming club has already started - Mr Fenton is the teacher in charge.

### ***What about the cricket club?***

Cricket runs in the summer term during the cricket season.

### ***Could you please let us know is there any swimming sports club?***

We do not do swimming in school – we do not have easy access to a swimming pool.

### ***Is the hockey team playing for the school? Same as football?***

Unfortunately, we don't have a hockey club running at the moment

### ***Is there singing club?***

The Music department have circulated details of their ensembles and activities.

### ***How do students join a club? How do they get more information on after school clubs? Do the clubs run on a specific day of the week?***

Details about extracurricular clubs have been emailed to students directly using their school email address. They can join a club by just turning up at the right time and place - very few require signing up in advance

### ***After school where do you pick up children after club's finish?***

From the same place as you would normally collect your child.

### ***Are pupils permitted to use the library after school whilst they wait for parents to arrive? What time is school library open please?***

Students can use the library before and after school. The library is normally open from 8.00am until 4.15pm

## Educational visits and the Year 7 residential

### ***Where is the residential trip going? What are the dates?***

To the PGL centre at Marchants Hill in Surrey. The trip dates are 8<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> March 2023.

### ***Is there a sibling discount?***

There is no sibling discount for the trip.

### ***Can we pay for the Year 7 residential using Childcare vouchers?***

No, unfortunately not.

### ***Will there be any theme park trips?***

Sorry, no. There are other very enjoyable and exciting trips though!

## Communication, apps, logins etc.

### ***Do we get direct contact details for teachers?***

No, we do not publish staff email addresses. You can email the school on [school@lgs.slough.sch.uk](mailto:school@lgs.slough.sch.uk) and mark the email for the attention of the member of staff you are wanting to contact. The school email is continuously monitored by the Headteacher's PA who will forward the messages on. Staff will reply to you using their own school email address, and you may often then develop an email exchange with them. We find it streamlines the system for the school email to be the 'gatekeeper' for initial queries so the questions get directed to the right person.

### ***When will students get their mymaths logins?***

The maths teachers will tell the students about mymaths logins when they are ready for them to use it.

***I believe we require login details provided by the new school to access ParentPay?***

ParentPay codes and login information were included in the letter your child brought home on Friday 23 September when they received with their lunch cards

***Who do we contact for a SIMs query?***

If the query is about being able to access the SIMS Parent app, please contact the school's IT technical team. To do this, email the school on [school@lgs.slough.sch.uk](mailto:school@lgs.slough.sch.uk) and mark the email for the attention of the IT technician.

***We have a new item listed on ParentPay for 'Printing credit top-up'. Could you tell what this is?***

This is new. School gives students a certain allocation of print credit. When that credit runs out parents have the option to purchase additional credit. You do not need to do anything with this charge until your son/daughter tells you they can no longer print and even then, only if you wish to purchase more credit for them.

***How do we set up School Cloud?***

School Cloud set-up instructions were included in the email which has been sent to you. If you did not receive the email, please contact us to check your email contact details are correct, and we can re-send.

***For ClassCharts, do parents have separate login code? Has the code to activate parent's login for Class Charts been sent?***

ClassCharts set-up instructions have been sent to you. If you did not receive the email, please contact us to check your email contact details are correct, and we can re-send.

***How long are the positive and negative comments counted for in ClassCharts?***

Positive and negative comments are counted for the whole year.

## **Miscellaneous.....**

***What is pupil premium money?***

Pupil Premium funding is additional money received by the school to support children who receive free school meals, or who have done so at any point in the last six years. Evidence shows that these pupils nationally tend to be disadvantaged compared to their peers in terms of their academic progress.

The money is used in three ways – to help improve the overall quality of teaching and learning, to provide targeted support for disadvantaged pupils who may be having difficulty with particular subjects, or to help fund specific activities or opportunities which low-income families might not otherwise be able to afford.

If your child attracts pupil premium funding you will be contacted to explain how we use the funding in more detail. You will also be able to access some funding to support things like educational visits, or cover the cost of the purchase of the iPad at the end of the year.

***Can we get training on parental control of phones and internet safety? Kids are cleverer on IT than us!***

We will be providing some further information on internet safety, social media misuse and how to support your child later in the year. There is also information on our website which directs you to organisations which can provide detailed and up to date guidance on internet risks.

When the iPad programme is rolled out you will be provided with more information about how to monitor your child's use of the device.