



Frequently Asked Questions

School uniform:

At Friars we allow pupils the choice between a white shirt and tie and a black logo polo shirt. You may wear a black cardigan or jumper with a red stripe, a school blazer is optional. Trousers or skirts must be black, with plain black shoes.

- **For PE:** Students to need to have a red and black PE polo shirt and black shorts in the summer (and track suit bottoms and a sweatshirt for the cold weather— optional). These must be plain with no identifiable logos. Sensible footwear is required.
- Logoed school items can be purchased from the **Uniform Shop: 01933 426433** www.uniformshopwellingborough.co.uk

Travel:

Unfortunately the school does not have any influence over school taxi or minibus transport. You will need to apply to the **local authority** for this.

What happens on the first day:

(when and where pupils report to school)

All students are greeted by members of staff as they enter the green gates. In the morning all pupils wait in the playground until it is time for school to start (a whistle will blow). There are lots of staff on duty that you can talk to if you want to. On your first day a member of staff will wait by the school playground and collect the students in their class.

The Friary - canteen facilities:

- **Snack:** During the morning all classes have social time. Social time is when all students have the opportunity to have a snack and drink (provided by school) and talk to the staff and people in their class base. Tuck shop: One day per week year 7 can go to the Friary at break time to purchase a snack or a drink from the tuck shop there is a maximum £1 spend.
- **Lunch:** The school can provide hot meals which cost £2.40 per day (subject to change). The menu can be found on the school website. If you have free school meals the main office can provide you with the correct forms to fill in if necessary. We run a cashless system so all meal payments are made through Parent Pay. You will be given this information once your child starts.



What to do at break and lunchtime:

During break and lunch time there are lots of different structured play activities which you can join in with. There are also many different lunchtime clubs which you can choose to join. These are displayed in the library. There are lots of staff on duty, so if you are not sure ask them and they will help you.

Reward systems for good work and behaviour:

At Friars we have four house teams, Nightingale, Pankhurst, Shakespeare and Tull. All classes have a house point book and at the end of each lesson the teacher will award points. You can get 1 point for good work and 1 point for good behaviour. There are opportunities to earn more points for your house during competitions as a whole school or during lunchtimes. House points can be exchanged for nice things from our catalogue.

At Friars we have a card system your teacher might send a yellow card if someone is having difficulty concentrating and they need some help. A red card if they need help immediately, or a blue card if you have done exceptionally well. A blue card is the best and the teacher who comes may give you extra house points.

How do I contact my child's teacher?

A class email address will be set up, and given to your child on the first day of school. Emails will be answered during normal working hours.

What do I do if there is something private I need to discuss with the school?

Please contact the main school office 01933 304950 and ask to speak to Mrs Pinfold. Mrs Pinfold is our Family Support Worker, she is always available at the end of the phone to help with any problems you may have, questions and the filling in of forms .

What should a student do / who to talk to if something is worrying you:

Please tell a member of staff, it doesn't matter who. We cannot help if we do not know there is a problem. After you have been at Friars for a while you can pick a special person to talk to called a mentor.

Toilet facilities:

There are several male, female, and accessible toilets (inc a hygiene suite) around the school building. Students are encouraged to use these during break and lunchtimes to cause minimum disruption to lessons. However, staff may let pupils go during lessons under certain circumstances.



Fire drills and safety information:

There are plans which show the fire exit in every room. On the first day your teacher will show you where the fire exit is in your room and where you need to go if there is a fire. We have practices every term so that we know what to do.

How to move safely around the school:

All pupils are expected to move around school in a sensible manner - this means no running. We have this rule because there are a number of pupils at our school who are unsteady on their feet or who are visually impaired. Year 7 students spend a lot of time in their base classes, but when they do move they are escorted by their teaching assistants.

The curriculum:

We offer a varied curriculum at Friars that contains a mixture of class based lessons working in the local community. Each class will have an individual risk assessment to ensure that all students are safe and have the correct levels of support.

Homework:

At Friars we offer a homework menu, in addition to maths and English work, which is emailed home every term / can be found on the website. Homework is not compulsory, however it is encouraged. Pupils will receive additional points for their house as a reward.

How the school building is arranged:

The school currently has KS3, KS4 and a very small post 16 provision. There are no set areas for each key stage, although everyone does have their own class base. Most students move on to colleges or 6th form provisions when they reach 16. We will support you with this.

What you should do if you don't feel well:

If you feel ill you need to let a member of staff know as soon as possible. They can then send a green card to alert a trained first aider who will come and assess you. The first aiders also give medication to those pupils who need to have it during school.



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Medical Needs:

If your child has medical need, including the need for medication to be administered during the day and or, they require support with toileting. You will need to get in touch with us to make sure a **medical form** or an **intimate care plan** has been completed. Without these essential documents we will not be able to support your child.

Clubs:

Friars Academy offer a number of after school clubs. These are non fee paying clubs. A list of these clubs will be sent home within the first few weeks. If your child chooses to attend one of these clubs we ask that they can commit to every week.

Please contact the school if you have any questions. We will be happy to help.

Email: transitions@friars.northants.sch.uk

