

Ivanhoe
College



A Parent's Guide to Transition



Your Journey to Excellence

Dear Parent/Carer,

Please find enclosed a copy of the Transition to Ivanhoe Booklet for you child to complete.

Each week we are asking parents/ carers to support their child to complete a different activity as part of the transition to Ivanhoe project. We know that your child may be eager and want to complete it all in one go but research suggests that children need a longer transition period and the move is more successful if tasks are completed over a number of weeks leading up to the first induction day. This guide will explain the rationale behind what we are asking the year 6 children to work on, helpful hints for supporting adults and where to find the tasks they need to complete each week.

Your child's transition days will take place at Ivanhoe on 29th and 30th June 2022.

You will be able to find supporting materials to go along with this booklet on the Ivanhoe website where a dedicated page '**Information for New Year 7s Autumn 2022**' has been set up. Please keep checking back as new items will be added on a regular basis.

The first task is to complete a questionnaire with your child so that we can identify any worries that you or your child may have regarding transition and we can plan our induction days to address these concerns. The questionnaire will close on the 20th May 2022 so that our team can begin working on answering your questions.

We are really looking forward to working with you and your child,
Best Wishes

Ivanhoe Transition Team

This questionnaire can be found on our website in the Parents Menu- Information for new Year 7s Autumn 2022, or by entering the following link into the address bar on your browser: <https://forms.office.com/r/nFAyfUeVbp>

Week 1

Each week we will be sending home a tip and/or activity for you to discuss/complete with your son/daughter to support their move to Secondary School.

We would like to make the transition process as smooth as possible and would appreciate it if you could encourage your child to complete the activities each week.

If you haven't already done so, think about how you can help your child to be more independent: at home, do they put clothes away/ complete simple jobs like making their own bed or sandwiches/ make hot drinks etc?

Ask who else is going to the same school and encourage friendships; The other students from your child's primary who will be in the same Form Group may not be the children your child usually socialises with but it is always good to have a familiar face in the first few weeks. Remind your child that they will make new friends when they start their new school.

Students should complete the pages assigned in the transition booklet for each week. It is important not to rush through the booklet, but take time to think and talk about each activity

This week your child should complete pages 4-7.

Encourage your child to complete the first two activities in the booklet considering:

- what information they would like their new teachers to know about them.
- how they feel about starting at Ivanhoe.

Week 2

This week students should complete the activities on Page 8-11.

Pages 8 and 9

Chat to your child about who supports them at home.

Are there members of the wider family network that your child uses to access support ?

Encourage them to think about adults they come into contact with on a regular basis such as Sports coaches, Scout Leaders etc.

Pages 10 and 11

Work through this page with your child and discuss each of the items in turn.

If your child identifies it as a concern, are they able to explain why they are worried about it?

Can you work together to identify ways that these concerns could be addressed?

Week 3

This week your child should complete pages 12-13.

Parents - Think about what else your child could do more independently – do they know how to cross roads safely? Can they make simple meals? If not, now is a great time to start introducing them to the washing up and basic meal prep.

Travel planning

- How will your child get to and from school every day?
- Can you incorporate/practise the journey as part of your family exercise?
- Alternatively, if your son/daughter will be using transport, can you use Google Earth, Google Maps or other apps to see where the bus stops (etc.) are? You could plan your journey to work/ the shops

If your child is catching a school bus discuss:

- The use of travel passes and what happens if they are lost?
- What are the 'backup' plans for getting to and from school?
- What to do if they miss a stop/ what to do if bus doesn't come or is full up?
- Who to tell if you or someone else is being unkind on the bus.

Week 4

This week you child should complete pages 16 - 19.

Uniform

Look at P16-17 which contains some information about the school uniform. Think about which aspects of the Ivanhoe uniform are the same as their primary uniform. Which items are different?

Go onto the school website www.ivanhoe.co.uk and have a look at the information about uniform and stockists.

Students could be encouraged to use the exemplar prices to try to work out the approximate cost of the uniform. Can they write a checklist of items that are needed?

How to read a school timetable

On pages 18-19 have a look at the exemplar timetable in the booklet.

- What equipment/resources will your child need to take into school on specific days?
- Could your child do this independently?

Start to instil in your child that there are usually consequences at secondary schools for students that do not have the correct equipment/resources. There are also lots of rewards on offer for students who follow 'The Ivanhoe Way.' Can your child learn the Ivanhoe Way rules?

This might be a good time to access the school website and look at the Behaviour and Rewards policies that can be found in the parent section of the website.

Week 5

This week your child should complete pages 20-23

Did you know that Ivanhoe uses a pre-paid system for paying for students' lunches/snacks. Students then use that pre-paid money to buy their lunches each day.

Could you support your child to make healthy choices?

During time at home, could you set a similar system up, for them to 'pay' for snacks/lunches? I.e. allocate a certain amount per day, put prices on the snacks/drinks in your cupboards/fridges for your son/daughter to pay for them. Is your child able to plan for healthy options?

Pages 20-21

Suggest a daily/weekly meal budget for your child to purchase their school lunches and encourage them to try sticking to it by choosing items from the menu in the transition booklet.

- Is it easy/difficult for them to do?
- Did they choose healthy/unhealthy items?

Pages 22-23

Support your son/daughter in accessing Ivanhoe's website to answer the questions in the booklet. This may also be a good opportunity for you to have a look at the policies, practices and procedures such as timings, uniform and behaviour expectations etc.

Week 6

This week your child should complete pages 24-25

What if?

Discuss with your child problem solving ideas – “what would you do if...?”

Who would you ask for help if you were unsure about something?
Talk about how you have asked people to help you in different situations, emphasise that everyone needs help sometimes!

Encourage your child to complete the table with their ideas of what to do in the situations. Practise some phrases they could use in these situations?

Useful phrases

- ‘I’m lost’
- ‘I’m sorry I’m late.’
- ‘Please could you help me?’
- ‘Who should I ask/ tell about...?’
- ‘Where would I find...?’

During this process, your child may have raised several concerns and asked questions about transition to Ivanhoe. Some of these will have been answered but we would like to encourage you to revisit these with your child. Are there still questions that they haven’t had answered?

Can your child work through them and consider a possible solution? If they still can’t answer it, get them to write the question on P26-27 of the booklet. Ivanhoe will be asking for these questions so that we can answer them as part of our transition process.

Other Transition Tips to support your child at this time

Talk to your child about how they would like to say goodbye to key staff at their primary school—perhaps help them to make cards.

Allow plenty of opportunities for your child to talk about their forthcoming transition to Ivanhoe.

Some children will be chattier than others! Try to ensure that if there are any negatives, they can be turned into a positive (e.g. “no one I know is going to be in my class/school” “That’s a great opportunity to meet new people, you will still get to see on the weekend”)

Acknowledge any sadness about leaving primary school but remember to stay positive about the exciting new school they will be going to.

Remember to keep talking about secondary school over the summer and to look through any of the transition information completed. Revisit any travel plans if needed.

We are sure that both you and your child will have some feelings of anxiety and trepidation about the forthcoming change. It is completely understandable and natural to have these feelings, so please do not worry!

Try to be as calm and hide any of your personal anxieties from your children as they may pick up on these.

Encourage your child to verbalise their worries (if any!) as we are sure that they can be easily eased. **Positivity is key!**

Notes

Use this space to record any questions you still have about Ivanhoe or the transition process. There will still be time to ask these questions at further open evenings.

