

# Welcome to Gordano



We are delighted to welcome you into the Gordano family!

We are not only welcoming your child but you as parents as well

We will do everything we can to support the transition for you and your child as best we can

Tonight is just the start of our relationship...



*Tonight's presentation will be available on the school website*

# Guiding you through our Transition Programme for Year 6 pupils



**Ms Blundell** – Headteacher



**Mr Snow** – Director of Key Stage 3



**Mrs Wills** – Head of Year 7



**Mrs Luton** – Assistant Headteacher  
(Inclusion KS3)



# Parent feedback from last year



“ I felt the transition was smooth and the year 7 children were nurtured into their new school environment brilliantly. ”

*Year 7 parent*



“ Really well done to the Gordano Transition Team. I was so impressed with the whole process. ”

*Year 7 parent*



“ We couldn't wish for anything more ”

*Year 7 parent*



“ Having just the Year 7s and 11s in on day one worked really well. The staggered leave times made things less intimidating too ”

*Year 7 parent*



# A step change...



1 teacher

1 classroom

Known friends and relationships

Possibly not as much homework

Pace may feel slower

14 teachers/ Subjects

Many classrooms to walk between

A change in friendships and new friendships

More homework to organise themselves with

Pace may feel quicker

A bigger bag required!

A two-week timetable...



# Mr Snow



## Transition Process and Timeline



## Tutor Groups and Learning Groups



# Transition Timeline



**March**

Parents set up online accounts

**Thursday 7 May**

Transition Information Evening

**May**

Friends/Foreign Language requests

**June**

Visits to all the primary schools

**Tuesday 7 July**

Gordano Induction Day

**Saturday 18 July**

Youth Centre induction event

**Summer Holiday**

Summer Book Challenge

**Monday 7 September**

First Day at Gordano !



# Tutor Groups and Learning Groups



**House System**

**Friends - old and new**



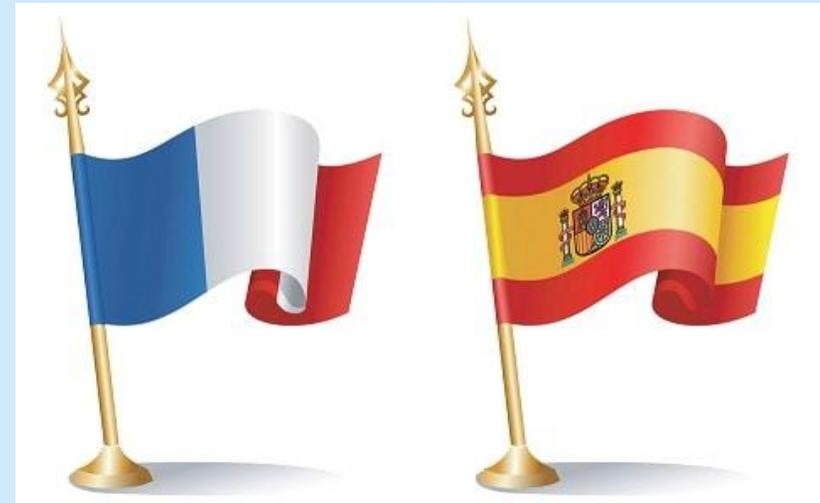
**Learning Groups**

**Foreign Language Choice**



**Twins**

**Out of Area**



# Homework



Different from primary school

Recognition and Rewards

Support

ClassCharts

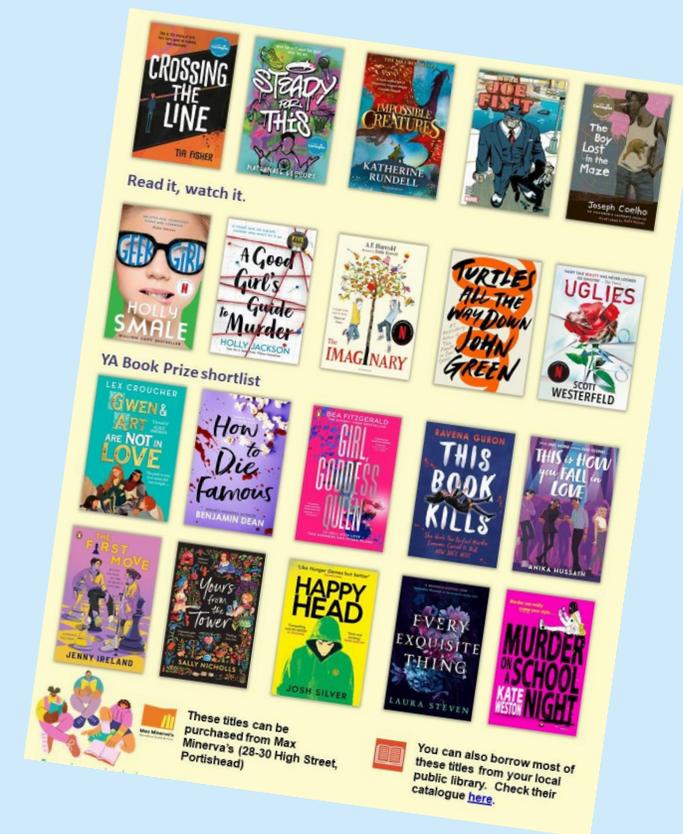
Deadlines

Staggered Start



**Homework Planner**

Subjects	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri



# Mrs Wills – Head of Year 7



**What happens at the Primary School Visits?**



**What happens on Induction Day?**



**What happens on the first day at Gordano in September?**



# What does a 2-week TT look like?



1Mon	1Tue	1Wed	1Thu	1Fri	2Mon	2Tue	2Wed	2Thu	2Fri
1Mon:1 <b>Information Tec</b> SWW IT2	1Tue:1 <b>Drama</b> LYH DR1	1Wed:1 <b>English</b> BCB E7	1Thu:1 <b>Mathematics</b> KMD MA2	1Fri:1 <b>Design Technol</b> GXT DT3	2Mon:1 <b>Geography</b> EO CC2	2Tue:1 <b>Design Technol</b> RIE DT3	2Wed:1 <b>Mathematics</b> EFL M10	2Thu:1 <b>English</b> AEL FC1	2Fri:1 <b>Physical Educati</b> HLW OLD2
1Mon:2 <b>Spanish</b> ASG L8	1Tue:2 <b>History</b> SEA H7	1Wed:2 <b>Spanish</b> SGT L7	1Thu:2 <b>Physical Educati</b> HLW OLD2	1Fri:2 <b>Design Technol</b> GXT DT3	2Mon:2 <b>History</b> SEA H7	2Tue:2 <b>Design Technol</b> RIE DT3	2Wed:2 <b>Ethics &amp; Philoso</b> HSH H5	2Thu:2 <b>English</b> BCB FC1	2Fri:2 <b>Physical Educati</b> HLW OLD2
1Mon:3 <b>English</b> BCB E8	1Tue:3 <b>Design Technol</b> RIE DT4	1Wed:3 <b>Dance</b> CEG DA1	1Thu:3 <b>Science</b> SAF S2	1Fri:3 <b>Music</b> LSB MU1	2Mon:3 <b>Science</b> SAF S2	2Tue:3 <b>Mathematics</b> KMD MA2	2Wed:3 <b>Science</b> GKT S18	2Thu:3 <b>Science</b> GKT S1	2Fri:3 <b>Spanish</b> JCP L6
1Mon:4 <b>Art</b> LXB AR7	1Tue:4 <b>Mathematics</b> EFL M10	1Wed:4 <b>Drama</b> LYH DR1	1Thu:4 <b>Science</b> SAF S2	1Fri:4 <b>Art</b> LXB AR7	2Mon:4 <b>English</b> BCB E8	2Tue:4 <b>Mathematics</b> EFL M10	2Wed:4 <b>English</b> ZLP LIB	2Thu:4 <b>Music</b> LSB MU1	2Fri:4 <b>Mathematics</b> KMD MA2
1Mon:5 <b>Science</b> GKT S1	1Tue:5 <b>English</b> AEL FC1	1Wed:5 <b>Mathematics</b> BXR MA4	1Thu:5 <b>Spanish</b> SGT L7	1Fri:5 <b>Physical Educati</b> HLW OLD2	2Mon:5 <b>Spanish</b> SGT L7	2Tue:5 <b>Science</b> SAF S2	2Wed:5 <b>Geography</b> EO CC2	2Thu:5 <b>Ethics &amp; Philoso</b> HSH H5	2Fri:5 <b>PSHE</b> HSH H5
1Mon:6 <b>Geography</b> EO CC2	1Tue:6 <b>English</b> AEL FC1	1Wed:6 <b>Science</b> GKT S1	1Thu:6 <b>English</b> BCB E8		2Mon:6 <b>Mathematics</b> EFL M10	2Tue:6 <b>Information Tec</b> SWW IT2	2Wed:6 <b>History</b> SEA H7	2Thu:6 <b>Spanish</b> JCP L6	

# Mobile Phones



- We are 'a no phones school'
- We have now fully transitioned to using 'Yondr' pouches across the school, so when Year 6 join us in Year 7 they will be shown how to use the pouch during their transition with us
- We want our students to focus on building relationships with each other and their learning in the classroom without distractions
- Students' phones will remain with them during the school day but in their pouches – therefore they will have them to and from school if you wish them to
- We have medical pouches for students who require their phones for monitoring purposes, for example – our diabetic students
- The school has plenty of IT facilities and so when IT is required for learning in school then students will have access to the appropriate resources.
- Our FAQs are available [here](#)



# Mrs Luton – Assistant Headteacher (Inclusion)



## **Weekly Parent Communication**

- Weekly update
- Reminders about events coming up and key dates
- Community information

## **Termly Newsletters**

Our Termly News celebrates the many achievements of our students and keeps our community up to date with the wide range of activities taking place here. As well as our school community, it reaches primary schools, stakeholders and members of the community. We invite you to sign up to receive it, so you can join our wonderful community in advance of September. [You can do this here](#), as well as read previous issues.

## **Parent Information Evenings**

# Mrs Luton – Assistant Headteacher (Inclusion)



## Mailbox

We ask parents to communicate through the school's monitored mailbox. We try and respond to queries within **3 working days**. Urgent safeguarding matters should be emailed directly to our schools safeguarding email account or please phone school [safeguardingteam@gordanoschool.org.uk](mailto:safeguardingteam@gordanoschool.org.uk)

Please look for key information on the website and the parent communications page [here](#) in the first instance.

## Facebook

Please follow our [Facebook page](#) for regular updates. Invitations to events, links to useful information, celebratory news and relevant community updates are all shared here, making it a useful platform to stay connected and informed.

*Parent-led WhatsApp/ Facebook groups do exist; if you have concerns please contact the school directly using the Mailbox so we can respond appropriately*

# Extra-Curricular – Gordano Extra



We have such a vast array of Extra-Curricular opportunities available for students across the school. We are really keen for all Year 7 students to try one extra-curricular activities during Terms 1 & 2.

HOME NEWS & EVENTS ABOUT US PARENTS STUDENTS SIXTH FORM VACANCIES COMMUNITY ATTENDANCE CONTACT US

HOME ► NEWS & EVENTS ► LATEST NEWS ►

## Gordano Extra Showcases Unprecedented Range of Opportunities Beyond the Classroom

Gordano School is proud to announce the publication of the latest edition of **Gordano Extra**.

In This Section

- Latest News
- Social Media
- School Calendar
- Subscribe to our Newsletter
- Termly Newsletter

# GORDANO EXTRA

**Dream Big**  
Ambition  
Engagement  
Leadership

**Do Your Best**  
Enthusiasm  
Resilience  
Independence

**Give Back**  
Kindness  
Role Modelling  
Contribution

A student and parent guide to the Gordano Extra Curricular offer

# Year 7 Camp & Activities Week



At the end of June/start of July in Year 7 we have our annual Activities Week

This is a pivotal time for Year 7 as it aids their transition to the House System and is led by our Heads of House

- Students spend 3 days at Osmington Bay (Wednesday-Friday)
- One day in their houses doing our Zoo Science Project (visiting wild place with our House Team and Science Team)
- One day having fun with 'Circomedia'

We are flagging this now as we would really like as many students as possible to join us and to give parents plenty of warning about this. The cost for camp this academic year is £426.

We also have a range of fantastic base activities for those students staying on the school site Wednesday-Friday





**Ms Blundell - Your questions....**

# Bullying and peer conflict



**Our school definition of bullying is:** Repetitive intentional hurting of one person or a group by another person or group, where the relationship involves an imbalance of power. Bullying can be physical, verbal or psychological. It can happen face-to-face or online.

We ask students to speak to their house team or log a concern remotely on our student concern log so that an allegation can be promptly investigated. It is our experience that prompt reporting allows unkind behaviour to be addressed immediately. Restorative conversations, sanctions – and in repeat cases - Behaviour Contracts linked to the school Behaviour Level System, and external mediation are interventions that have proved to be successful.

We also have a whole school focus on kindness in the community and our Safeguarding Lead is currently working with the student body to write a student-friendly version of the Anti-bullying section of the [School's Behaviour Policy](#).

Most of the student concerns that we receive relate to unkindness on social media, so again we welcome conversations at home about online safety and access to/monitoring of age-appropriate sites.

# Supporting less confident/anxious students



- Year 7 spaces throughout the full first year – 3G pitch, Elliot 'Hogwarts' Hall
- A wide variety of extra-curricular activities at lunch time
- Early lunches for the first few weeks – we are working towards a year 7 only grab and go pod
- Year 7 & 8 students leave school 5 minutes earlier than the older year groups
- Year 7 and Year 12 transition day in September prior to the rest of the school joining us
- A dedicated Assistant Head of Year who is a non-teacher and available throughout the day
- Tutors are a vital part of our students lives as they check in every morning during our tutor time programme



# Setting in Year 7



- Students are placed in a 'teaching group' from the start of the year. This is different from their tutor group
- The teaching group will change at the start of each academic year
- Majority of the timetable is in mixed ability groupings
- Mathematics is set in quarter year groups in Year 7 (based initially on Year 6 SATs results but then may be revised according to assessment scores in Maths)
- We will inform you about exact equipment needed (calculators are an important one and we don't want you wasting money on the wrong type).

# Settling in Year 7



- We come together every Monday morning through my Headteachers broadcast
- Year 7 are managed and supported as a Year group when they first come in, allowing Mrs Wills and Mr Snow to get to know them all
- The Houses (which Year 7 transition into in May/ June time) are effectively 6 families within the school and the houses are all led by a Head of House and an Assistant Head of House. The House team get to know Year 7 really well during activities week where they will go with their Houses on Year 7 camp
- We support Year 7 by ensuring they have their own areas, but of course they can go where they want to and don't have stay in that area if they don't want to

# Navigating our site



- We have lots of opportunities to support students when they arrive in navigating the site
- Their first day will be only Year 7 and 12, enabling us to walk them through the key areas of the site and for them to familiarise themselves with the Year 7 areas and faculty areas
- We have staff and older students across the site supporting students over the first few weeks and pointing them in the right direction
- They move as a teaching group, so all tend to support each other
- Their induction day in the summer term allows them to get a feel for the school, including different areas
- Year 7 students are surprisingly good at getting to know the site (better than some of the adults!)

# Supporting all our students in the classroom



## Examples of adaptive planning

- Seating plan based on knowledge of learners
- Resources on blue background/ appropriate font/ uncluttered in design
- Consideration of cognitive load
- Specific 'Do Now' (first activity) to support students who were absent last lesson
- Teacher articulation of 'why' and how links to prior/future learning
- Explicit teaching of vocabulary
- Explanations planned in chunks
- Multi model teaching (e.g pictures/diagrams to support words)
- Checklists; to show stages of the lesson and to support task completion
- Scaffolds such as sentence starters, writing frames
- Models, often following the process of 'I do, we do, you do'



## Examples of approaches to checking for understanding

- Questioning: teachers posing questions to a variety of learners, choosing who answers
- Use of 'Show me' boards
- Teacher circulation during every task, checking students' understanding and praising effort
- Teacher circulation during paired talk; listening in
- Knowledge quizzes

## Examples of adaptations in response to checking

- Rephrasing/scaffolding of questions: guide students to answer
- Asking a student to 'better' an answer or circling back following 'I don't know'
- Extending questioning to further challenge thinking
- Circulating during Do Now/paired talk and then warm calling based on what was noticed
- Bringing the class back together in response to noticing struggle/misconception
- Providing students with additional practice in the moment based on an area identified
- Simplifying/refining task design
- Live marking
- Showing a great example of a piece of work under the visualiser Seating plan adjustment
- Noting a key aspect to revisit next lesson informed by checking



# Provisions for EHCP pupils with a range of needs



- **The Compass**

- Provision for year 7 pupils with EHCPs. Opened in September 2025.

- **The Compass South**

Provision for year 8 pupils with EHCPs. Opening September 2026

- **The Compass North**

Year 9 SEND provision. Plans to open in September 2027.

# The Harbour



- **Specialist hub for pupils with a primary need of ASD (EHCP).**
- First intake September 2026. Year 7 x 5 pupils.
- Building complete in January 2026. Pupils will be based in a temporary classroom until building completion.