

Transition

Frequently asked questions

Welcome to Blackburn High School Webinar – Prior to Edutest

Wednesday 6 September

Is there a Transition Information Session about the Parent Portal and the Bring Your Own Designated Device Program?

Yes, the webinar on 19th October will cover our Parent Portal, BYODD program together with other transition information. Information about the webinar will be communicated to you in future communications.

What device does my child need to have for Year 7?

The school has a Bring Your Own Designated Device program and the preferred devices will be listed under the Bring Your Own Designated Device area on our website

Year 7 Educational Assessment –

Wednesday 13 September, 12:15pm to 3:30pm

What is the assessment?

The assessment is a diagnostic tool that lets us know about your child. There are four, 30 minute assessments divided into two sessions. The first session is based around general ability and the second session is about skills and knowledge acquired through primary school. There will be a half hour break in between the two sessions.

Do I need to study for the assessment?

Definitely not – this is an assessment only of the skills and knowledge learnt through primary school and the student's potential.

How is the assessment conducted?

Onsite- paper testing

Can my child apply for the High Achievers' Class for Year 7 2024?

No need to apply, the High Achievers Class for Year 7 2024 will be selected from the Year 7 Edutest Assessment results.



Parent Portal

The Parent Portal is the main way parents access information about their child's progress, excursions, events, attendance, reports, fees etc. All school information to parents is distributed through the portal. Check this portal and complete any required tasks to assist your child with a smooth transition to Blackburn High School.

There will be a Transition Information Webinar on, Date TBA, more details will be advised.

You will receive a **secure login** to the parent portal in Term 4. Do not share your password with your child, as this is used for confidential information for parents only. Students will receive their own secure login and password when commencing Year 7.

Principal's Welcome and House Information Afternoon/Evening – Onsite

Thursday 7 December 2023 (PARENTS ONLY)

Will I be notified about the Principal's Welcome and House Information Evening/Afternoon?

Yes, notification will be advised via our parent portal.

Do I bring my child?

No, students do not attend. This afternoon is for parents only.

Orientation Tuesday 12 December

Students arrive at 8.45am for a 9.00am start and leave at 3.15pm. Students should be dropped off and collected from the gymnasium.

What should my child wear?

Primary school uniform, runners and hat.

Do I need to provide lunch and snack for my child?

Yes, your child will need to bring their own snack, lunch and water bottle.

Does my child need pens and paper on the day?

Yes, students are required to bring a well-stocked, named pencil case and a notebook.

Transition Workshop

Does my child attend the workshop?

Yes your child will be invited to attend one morning/afternoon over the allocated dates - 13- 17 November. Parents will be required to drop off and collect their child. You will be notified of the allocated date closer to the time.

House Information

When do I find out what House my child is in?

You will find out your child's House via email prior to the House Information Afternoon on Monday **Date TBA**

Can I change my child's House?

Generally a change of House is not permitted due the criteria used to place students.

Is there any difference between the Houses?

There is no difference between the Houses. Each House has the same mix of students, subject teachers and activities.

How are students placed in a House?

Sibling, academic, sporting, musical and artistic considerations are taken into account, together with existing and possible new friendships.

Mentor Group

When do I find out my child's Mentor Group?

Your child will be allocated a Mentor Group in their House and this will be known on Orientation Day.

Uniform

Where do I buy my uniform?

Uniform details and pricelist can be accessed through our website under the Year 7 Transition tile. Blackburn High School uniform is purchased at Dobsons who are located in North Balwyn. All relevant details are in the brochure.

Are there second hand uniform options?

Yes. The Second Hand Uniform Shop is open every Tuesday and Friday 8.00am to 8.45am and located at school.

Is the uniform enforced?

Yes, the uniform is enforced and checked daily by the child's Mentor teacher and then their classroom teachers.

Are there definite seasons for the uniform?

Yes. Summer uniform is enforced Term 1 and Term 4. Winter uniform is enforced in Term 2 and Term 3.

Is the blazer compulsory?

Yes, the blazer is compulsory and must be worn as the outer garment of the school uniform.

If an outer garment is not required due to hot weather, then the blazer does not have to be worn. The school jumper cannot be the outer garment.

A supply of second hand blazers are available through the Second Hand Uniform Shop.

Student Canteen

Is the Canteen open every day?

Yes, the Canteen opens every day for recess and lunch and is operated by BOCCA FOODS. A menu is available on our website under Our School, Canteen. Here you will see the menu and the instructions of how to order.

Music

My child would like to learn a musical instrument as a beginner. How do we do this?

If your child has never played an instrument before but would like to learn, you should tick YES in the relevant section of our online enrolment form. You will then be contacted by a member of staff from the Music Department to discuss the options. There will also be an opportunity in February 2024 for students to join the music program directly (subject to availability).

My child currently learns a musical instrument. How do I enrol them into music lessons?

Complete the Instrumental Music Interest Form as part of the online enrolment form and a member of staff from the Music Department will be in contact with you.

CSEF Funding and **State School Relief - Year 7 Uniform Package**

Families who are valid Health Care Card holders may be eligible to apply for CSEF funding and uniform assistance. Further information and the necessary forms are available on our website under the **Year 7 Transition tile** or **contact the Bursar, Andrea Julien: andrea.julien@education.vic.gov.au**