

A day in the life of a Year 7 at Sir John Hunt.....

Dear new Year 7 student,

Welcome to Sir John Hunt, Miss Warring asked me to write this letter to go on the website so you know what to expect when you arrive here. For me this is a typical day.

I always arrive at about 8.10am and go to the canteen to meet my friends and get a free bagel and a drink. This means I don't have to rush in the mornings and I'm never late!

At 8.25am, the first bell sounds and I make my way to Roll Call (in the Sports Hall) to meet my tutor so they can register me. There is a steady flow of years 7-10 doing the same thing and as I enter, I move towards my tutor line. Once in my space in the line (we stand in alphabetical order by our surname), I take off my jacket and get my pencil case and planner out ready for checks.

At 8.30, the doors to the Sports Hall close and the music stops; we all stand in silence and look towards our Pastoral Leader, Miss Warring, who is at the front of the Sports Hall.

"Good morning. Please can you ensure that your coats are off; phones are turned off and in your bags; and check that your uniform and equipment is ready for your tutors to check!"

Our tutor will then move up our line - making sure we have all our equipment and uniform, so we are ready for the day. Once these checks have been done, we listen (in silence) to all the notices: this is where we find out what clubs are on after school and any other important information for the day. Once this is completed, we leave with our tutor group and we walk quietly to our tutor room or to assembly with our tutor.

Once we get into our tutor room, we are given our reading books and bookmarks, then our tutor begins to read. We all follow along with our bookmark, so that we can 'track the text'. I like this, as it gives us chance to read books that I would never normally read.

Just before the 9am bell sounds, we quietly pack away and stand behind our chairs. When the bell goes, our tutor dismisses us row by row and we make our way around the one-way system to our first lesson (this is an opportunity to visit the toilet, if we do it sensibly and quickly. There are lots of toilets around the site we can use so if one block is busy, I just go to the next one).

As we get to our lesson, our teacher greets us at the door. We sit in our seats- in silence- get our equipment out and we start our retrieval quiz.

Our teachers then explains to us what we are studying and we write this down along with the date and underline it, (always with a ruler!) in our books.

The teacher then explains the lesson's intention and makes sure we have listened to them by asking us questions (there is no hiding, as we often do this on white boards, so they know if you need extra help). The teachers call this part of the lesson the 'Instructional Phase'.

After this, we are given time to work independently, the teachers call this the 'Deliberate Practice Phase'. When we work hard, we can earn Character Education Cards for showing Endeavour, Ambition and Respect, which are our core values - (you will learn about these when you start here). The more points you get, the better the trip you get to go on at the end of the term!

Towards the end of the lesson, teachers will say, "We will now move onto the Consolidation Phase." This is their way of saying they are going to check that we understand and have thought about the learning during the lesson. We sometimes write answers to questions in our book; other times we may discuss the answers with a friend before sharing with the class.

At the end of the lesson, we pack up quietly and the teacher checks our uniform before we leave the classroom. When the bell sounds, we are allowed to leave sensibly following the one-way system (I always use this as an opportunity to visit the toilet, as I know we aren't supposed to go during a lesson!)

At 10.40am, it is morning break. This is where we get to spend time socialising with our friends. We can either sit in the canteen or go to the year 7 playground area. We can chat to our friends, play football or basketball in the Year 7 area and even read a book quietly if we want to. Once the bell sounds, we make our way to Period 3 for more lessons. There are 6 periods in a day – you may have singles or doubles.

At 12.40pm, it is lunchtime. We leave our lessons, and again, either go to the canteen or outside to our Year 7 area. The canteen has two different counters where we can buy food from. The food is good and includes pizza, baguettes, paninis, pasta dishes and a salad bar. On Friday, we can have fish and chips!

You can also buy lots of different drinks, you do this through ParentPay, so you don't have to bring any money with you to College. We have 40 minutes for lunch and at the end of lunch, the bell sounds and we make our way to Period 5.

At 3pm, lessons finish for the day- this is when we can go home. Most of us choose to attend an enrichment club. There are lots of these! Football, Cricket, Table tennis, Fitness, and Yoga are just *some* of the sports clubs. We also get the chance to do Film Club, Lego Club and also STEM Club. If you want to, you can also do your homework in the study support sessions. Once 4pm comes, it's time to go home, get some rest, do your homework, pack your bag so it is all ready for the next day!

I look forward to meeting you and I hope you have found my guide useful. There's a whole lot more I could say but I will leave you with this advice: don't worry! The staff at Sir John Hunt are amazing and so kind! If you want to do well, they will help you.

Yours faithfully

Year 7 student