



Millthorpe
School



Moving to Millthorpe

TRANSITION UPDATE 01: **Forms and Houses**



Welcome to Millthorpe School

Hello to all of our new students!



My name is
Mr Baybutt
and I work with
Ms Simpson
and Miss

Johnson to help all Year 6
students with their move
to Millthorpe School.

Normally, we would come and
see you at your primary school
but as we cannot do that at
the moment, we wanted to get
in touch and begin to explain a
bit about your new school and
how everything is organised.

We will send you several
updates in the coming
weeks, so if you have
a question that is not
covered in this document,
please don't worry.

We hope to explain
everything that you need
to know and once we have
sent everything through,
if you still have questions,
we would be happy to
answer them after you have
received all of the information
that we plan to send you.



Ms Simpson
Miss Johnson



Looking forward to September...

How many people will be in Year 7 at Millthorpe?

There are 212 Year 6s coming together from 19 different primary schools to make Year 7. You may well know some, lots, or none of them, but you will definitely not know everyone, and this is a great opportunity for you to make lots of new friends.

How will we all be organised? What are "Forms" or "Tutor Groups?"

There will be 8 forms (sometimes called tutor groups) in Year 7. Each form will have 26-28 people in them from a variety of different primary schools. At the end of this document, we have asked you to select up to 4 friends who you would like to be in a form with and we will do our best but please note that there are no guarantees and you may not get all 4 of your choices. We will

try to keep you with at least 1 of them, and some people may get more than one choice. There will definitely be people in your form who you have never met so again, you will be able to make lots of new friends. Your form will stay the same throughout the whole 5 years at Millthorpe. You will see the people in your form every day for the first 20 minutes of school. Everyone in your form will be in the same House – so you are all on the same team for the whole 5 years.

Who will look after us?

Your new form will be looked after a "Form Tutor"; a teacher in school who will look after you every day. You will see your form tutor with the rest of your form every morning. They will do the register, pass on any messages, check your uniform, equipment and make sure you have everything that you need for the day. Your form



tutor will get to know you really well; a bit like your Year 6 teacher does. You will start your school day with them every day. They will look after you, make sure everything is ok and ensure that you have a positive start to each school day. Your parents or carers will be able to contact them if they need to and they will be the teacher in school that you can go to if you need any help, support or advice. Your form will be 7 (for Year 7) and then the 3 initials of your form tutor e.g. 7SMR.



Understanding the “House System”

What is the “House System” and how does it work?

Everyone at Millthorpe (staff and students) belongs to one of the three Houses; **Roman**, **Saxon** or **Viking**. You will be a member of this House for the whole 5 years and your task is to make it the best House in the school. Every time you get a “positive” reward, your House gets a point too.



On Sports Day, you represent your House. At the end of the year, the House with the most points wins (and the staff of the other two Houses get gunged!)

Each House has two key members of staff – a Student Support Officer and a Director of Achievement. Like with your

form tutor, you will know who your Student Support Officer is and who your Director of Achievement is. They will help you with anything that you need, and they are available every day to offer help and support. They also check that your attendance is excellent (the school target is at least 96% attendance), that you are on time for school each day, that you are behaving well, meeting expectations and are making excellent academic progress. The stripe on your tie will be in the colour of the house you are in; **Roman**, **Saxon** or **Viking**.



Forms and Houses: Answers to FAQs



1 Will everyone from my primary school be in the same form?

Probably not but it depends how many other people are coming from your primary school. If there are lots of people moving to Millthorpe from your primary, you will be split into different forms. If your primary has a small number of people coming to Millthorpe, you might all be in the same form.

2 Will I know anyone in my new form?

The vast majority of you will know at least one other person in your form. You will be able to tell us the names of four of your friends and we will try to keep you with them (but no promises!)

3 What happens if I don't know anyone else that is coming to Millthorpe?

Don't worry! Every year, there are students who are the only person coming to Millthorpe from their primary school (or sometimes they only know one other person). If nobody else is coming to Millthorpe from your primary school but you know someone from a different primary school, you will be able to write them down. If you don't know anybody at all, please still send the information to us, but write "I do not know anybody

else" rather than writing names down. We will make sure that will give you extra help and make sure that you quickly make friends at Millthorpe. We will also look to put you in a form with other students who also don't know anyone else so that you are not the only one in this position. Please don't worry...we will look after you and help you to settle in.

4 If I know some of the teachers at Millthorpe, will I be able to choose my new form tutor?

Unfortunately, no. Most of the teachers already have a form class. Your form will be allocated a form tutor from the staff who do not already have a form for September.

5 Will there be students from other year groups in my form?

No. Your form will only have people your age in it.



Forms and Houses: Answers to FAQs

6 What about the House we are all in?

Everyone in your form will all be in the same House; Roman, Saxon or Viking. There will be students from all of the other year groups (Year 8 to Year 11) in the same House as you, earning rewards for your House, wearing the same colour tie and working with the same staff. Whilst you are all on the same team, you will only all be together in a House assembly, which happens once every few weeks.

7 How many friends can I request to be in my form with me?

You can write up to 4 friends down. You can write less if you want, but if you know at least 4 people who are coming to Millthorpe in Year 7, we recommend that you write down 4 people. Please write their full name as you know them. This can be a shorter first

name e.g. Tom (for Thomas) or Steph (for Stephanie) and the surname that you know. Don't worry if people have changed surnames; we will check this with your teachers if we are not sure.

8 Can I write down the names of people I do not want to be in a form with?

No. Whilst there might be a reason why you do not want to be in a form with somebody else, we only ask for who you do want to be with.

9 Do we get to choose which House we will be in?

No. There is a lot for us to organise so we cannot also ask which House you would like to be in. Also, within your friendship group, one of you might want to be a Roman, one might want to be a Saxon and one might want to be Viking! So, it would be too difficult to organise.

10 If I have older brothers and sisters at Millthorpe, will we be in the same House as them?

We do not automatically put you in the same House. You might be, but you might not. Like the answer for number 8, it is too difficult to keep you with your friends and put you in the same House as a sibling. Also, you might have a brother in Roman House and your best friend might have a sister in Viking House. If you want to be in a form together, you have to be in the

same House, so it is too tricky. We think it is more important that we try to keep you with your friends rather than choosing your House.

Your job is to make your House the best House once you arrive!





Forms and Houses: Answers to FAQs

11 If I have friends at a different primary school, can I write them down so I can hopefully be in a form with them?

Yes, of course. But we need as much information as possible. Ideally, you need to write their first name, surname and the primary school that they go to so that we can try to put you in the same form. If you do not know their primary school and cannot find out, please write their first name, surname and write "Other school." If you only know their first name, it is very unlikely that we will be able to find out who you mean so please try to write down as much as you can.

12 Does it matter which order I write my friends down in?

No. Please just write down the name of 4 friends who you would like to be kept with. If they go to the same primary school as you,

we just need their first name and surname. It doesn't matter what order they are written in.

13 Will I definitely get all 4 of my choices?

No! We try to keep you with at least one of your choices. Some people may get more than one of their choices, but the aim is to keep you with at least one friendly face. We cannot guarantee that you will get all of your choices and in fact, it is quite rare that you will get all 4. You are not taught your lessons as a form group – you are in lessons with other Year 7 students from other forms. So even if you are not in the same form as some of your friends, you may still be in some lessons with them and you can see them every break and lunch time.



Planning ahead...

How do I tell you who I would like to be with in a form?

Please ask your parents or carers to send the following information via email to – year6transition@millthorpeschool.co.uk

We need:

- 1 Your name
- 2 Your primary school
- 3 The first name and surname of up to 4 friends that you would like us to try to put you in a form with. If they do not go to the same primary school, please let us know which primary school they attend if you can.
- 4 What are your favourite lessons, topics or subjects at school?
- 5 What are your hobbies and interests? What do you like to do when you are not at school?

At the moment, please only send this information to us. We will be sending you lots more information in the coming weeks which may cover any questions that you have and if, after all of the information we send you, you do have any questions, we will organise a way for you to ask these then.

Your parents will receive an automatic reply so that you know that we have received your friendship choices. Please make sure that we have received this information by **Friday 15th May**.

Thank you, and we will be in touch soon! Take care and stay safe at home.

