



Hillview School – F.A.Q

What if my child is the only one coming from her primary school?

Students can be placed in classes with people they know from different schools or who are coming from similar geographical areas and all students are supported through the buddy and mentor system.

How many students are there at Hillview?

There are approximately 1500 students in the school and 236 places in Year 7.

How many Year 7 classes do we have?

We currently have 8 Year 7 classes.

How many students are there in each class?

Class sizes are approximately 28/29.

Do you stream students?

We avoid wholesale streaming of students as this approach is very rigid and risks forcing students onto a path that may prove unsuitable. We provide mixed ability teaching for Foundation subjects. We do however set in Maths and English - we find that setting in these subjects allows us to be very precise about ensuring pace and challenge is appropriate.

Which GCSE subjects are students required to do?

All students will take GCSEs in English Language and Literature, Maths and Science (Triple or Double). Students then select four other optional subjects and we require that one of these is a Humanities subject *or* a Language. Where appropriate, we encourage students to select both.

What SEN support is available?

SEN support varies depending on the needs of the child. There is generally less out of class intervention at secondary school as encouraging independence is key, but a wide range of support is available. If your child is offered a place at Hillview, we work closely with primary school and parent to ensure we understand your child's needs and can meet them.

Who can my daughter speak to if she has a problem?

Your child's mentor is someone they see every day and will be able to sort out most niggles. Our Year 7 Student Support Manager is also there to support where there are more complex issues.

Do you offer many clubs at Hillview?

As a school we understand the importance for Clubs and as a result we have many clubs on offer. From Science club to textiles to a variety of PE clubs. Our Cheerleading Club has done incredibly well at competitions and our F24 Greenpower Racing Club gives students a hands-on experience with an electric race car. We are confident that we will have a club that will interest each and every student.

Are there lockers available?

Lockers are available and will be arranged during transition activities on the first day of term in September. Please provide a padlock and keys on the first day to secure a locker. Mini-lockers are also available in changing rooms, which can be used during PE, Dance and Drama lessons as an alternative to handing in valuables. These will require plastic locker tokens, which will be available to purchase at 20p each from Reception. We hope that this will encourage and help to support the safe-keeping of valuables in school, particularly during practical PE lessons. Please encourage your child to use these facilities.