



George Spencer Academy

New Intake Information

George Spencer is a high achieving 11-18 comprehensive school, rated 'outstanding' by OFSTED. We welcome applications from within and outside of our catchment area.

If you are walking to events at school please use either entrance. If driving, please use the Lower Site(Toton) entrance (opposite the Japanese Water Gardens). **Parking is ONLY available on the Lower Site of the school.**

For further information, please contact the school: info@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk or **0115 9170100**

What happens next?

Now that your child has a place at George Spencer the following will happen:

- Your child will be visited by a teacher from George Spencer. At our feeder schools this will take the form of a 1 hour lesson at non-feeder schools we will visit your child and spend 15-30 minutes answering their questions. All students will complete a passport to George Spencer Academy which allows us to find out about your child. These are passed on to your child's learning manager.
- We will discuss with your child's Y6 teacher/Headteacher how your child has progressed at school and if there are any circumstances we should be aware of e.g learning needs.
- We will place your child in a form group. [See the Form Groups Section](#)
- Your child will be invited to new intake day and you will be invited to new intake evening. These days will be a chance for you all to meet your child's learning manager and find out more about George Spencer Academy.
- In the first term there will be a Learning 2 Learn evening which you will be invited to attend to discover how to support your child whilst at George Spencer, there will also be a 'Meet the Learning Manager' evening in the first term where we will invite parents to meet with their child's learning manager and discuss how they have settled in.

If you have any questions relating to your child's transition to George Spencer Academy please contact:

Mr James Ryan - Director of Learning for Y7. E-mail: jryan@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk

Ms P Akhtar - PSA for Y7. E-mail: pakhtar@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk

You will have an opportunity to meet your child's learning manager and talk to other members of staff on the new intake evening.

Key Dates

Please find all of the key dates for Year 7 on the flight plan document found on the school website.

http://www.george-spencer.notts.sch.uk/images/itl_demo/doc/Parents/Y6Information.pdf

Form Groups

Will my child be with their friends?

We understand that this is often the most important question on most student's and parent's minds as they move to George Spencer Academy. As you can imagine it is a difficult task to place students into form groups ensuring we have a mix of boys and girls, abilities and feeder schools and ensuring students stay with friendship groups from primary. Where possible we try to place your child with at least one friend from their feeder school or students they already know from other activities outside of school.

Please support us by discussing with your child the advantages and opportunities of being placed with students from other schools or classes within their school and the opportunity to make new friends.

To help place students into forms we will be sending home a George Spencer transfer form. This form will allow your son or daughter to tell us about the friends they would most like to have in their form when they join us. There is also a section for parents to add on any comments they have. This form is then reviewed by the Year 6 teacher before being returned to us.

If there are any circumstances you feel we need to be aware of please do not hesitate to contact school to discuss these further.

What are the S and P Half?

The Year group is split into form groups. The form groups are then split into 2 half year groups called S and P half. During Year 7 students will have some lessons as a form and some in sets which will contain students from either the S or P half. As students progress through school and particularly in the I Phase they will have some groups where there are students from both the S and P half.

Each form group is given the initials of their learning manager for example Mr Thorpe's form would be 7MT.

Key Equipment

Your child will need:

Blue/black pens
Pencil Crayons
Pencil and Pencil Sharpener
Rubber
Ruler
Calculator
Dictionary
School Bag

You may also find useful:

Highlighters
Plastic pockets
A4 folders
Glue stick
A pair of inexpensive headphones

Please make sure everything is clearly labelled.

Policies

Some of the key school policies which may be useful for you to familiarise yourself with

Anti-Bullying
Complaints procedure
Drugs and substance abuse

Boys Uniform



Black blazer with Academy badge.

All students must wear the academy blazer.



Black school trousers. Trousers are to be plain black traditional school trousers. Skinny trousers or denim are not allowed



Black plain v neck woollen sweater (optional) with the academy badge embroidered.

This cannot be worn instead of a blazer but in addition to a blazer for warmth. No cardigans



White collared cotton shirt

All shirts should be worn tucked inside the trousers



George Spencer Academy Tie

The knot of the school tie must conceal the top button of the shirt and that the length of the tie must reach the waist i.e. the top of their trousers



Black socks

Sturdy, black school shoes
No Trainers, canvas shoes, boots or open toed sandals

You can purchase official GSA uniform items from the following providers:

Morleys - 116-118 Bramcote Avenue, Chilwell, Nottinghamshire, NG9 4DR
(www.schoolwearsolutions.co.uk)

Simply First - 200 Derby Rd, Stapleford, Notts. NG9 7AY (www.schooluniformnottingham.com)



Plain black coat

Hoodies are not permitted

Girls Uniform



Black blazer with Academy badge.

All students must wear the academy blazer.



Black trousers

(Not leggings, hipster or excessively tight, flared or denim jeans)



knee length official pleated skirt from *Morleys*.



Black plain v neck woollen sweater (optional) with the academy badge embroidered.

This cannot be worn instead of a blazer but in addition to a blazer for warmth.
No cardigans



White collared cotton shirt

All shirts should be worn tucked inside the trousers or the skirt



George Spencer Academy Tie

The knot of the school tie must conceal the top button of the shirt and that the length of the tie must reach the waist i.e. the top of their trousers or skirt



Black / White socks or tights



Sturdy, black school shoes
No Trainers, canvas shoes, boots or open toed sandals

You can purchase official GSA uniform items from the following providers:

Morleys - 116-118 Bramcote Avenue, Chilwell, Nottinghamshire, NG9 4DR
(www.schoolwearsolutions.co.uk)

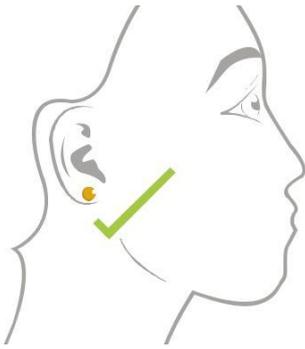
Simply First - 200 Derby Rd, Stapleford, Notts. NG9 7AY (www.schooluniformnottingham.com)



Plain black coat

Hoodies are not permitted

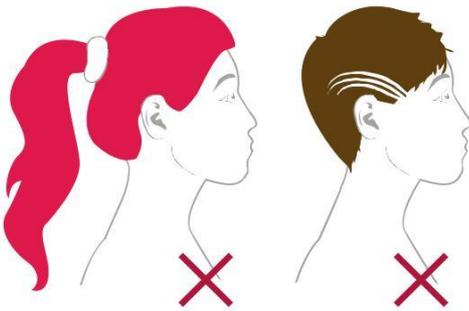
Jewellery



Students are allowed one pair of small flat/smooth ear lobe studs. Small coloured diamonds are acceptable. No other ear or facial/mouth/tongue piercings.

No other jewellery is allowed

Hair

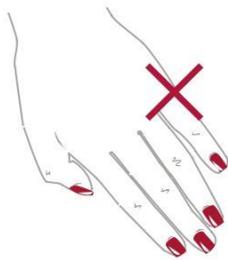


No extreme Haircuts

Extreme is defined as a shaved head - less than a number one; hair with 'tramlines' or 'logos' cut in; contrasting colours, unnatural colours; extreme contrast in hair length e.g. very short with a tufted fringe.

No extreme hair jewellery or hair braids.

Nails and Make up



No Nail polish or fake nails.



Discreet make-up is acceptable. Heavy or visible eye or lip colouring is not permitted.

Headscarves



Headscarves – Girls who wish to wear headscarves may do so as long as they conform to the requirements listed below:

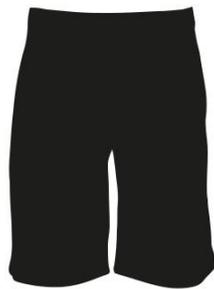
- The fabric should be lightweight and black or white.
- The headscarves should be folded under the chin, taken round the back and the ends tucked in - this conforms to health and safety standards.
- Headscarves should be worn so the collar and tie can be seen.

PE Kit

Autumn/Spring outdoor



Red & black rugby shirt/red sweatshirt from *Morleys*.

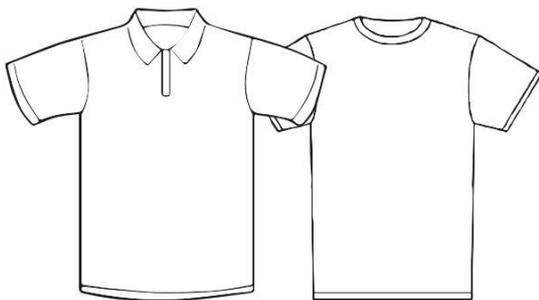


Plain black shorts.

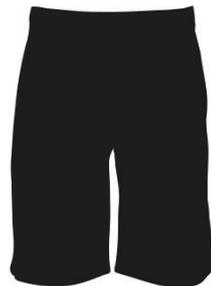


Plain black football socks.

Autumn/Spring indoor



Plain white t-shirt or polo shirt.



Plain black shorts.



Plain black football socks.

Extras



A change of footwear appropriate to the activity.



Shin pads.



Gum shield.

Frequently Asked Questions

My Child has a Teaching assistant, will they get the same support at your school?

As all students learning needs are different, it is impossible to answer this question. If you have any concerns please contact school. Members of the Individual needs team will be available on new intake evening to answer your questions.

What are the arrangements for the first day?

Students will need their pencil cases and a school bag. PE kit will not be necessary. Do not arrive at school before 8.30. Students should wait in the tennis courts on Lower Site where they will line up and be brought in by Learning Managers. Please make sure that all property is clearly named including bags, pencil cases, shoes..... infact everything you can please label!

How much dinner money will be needed?

The school now operates a cashless catering system called sQuid. Students have to look after a card which is topped up by parents online. All students in Year 7 will receive details of how to open their accounts in the middle of August. We recommend that parents put on £2.50 a day for lunches.

There are various options available; snacks, school dinner, vegetarian options and healthy options. Sandwiches can be eaten in the Dining Room or Garden Area. Snacks also available at break.

What do I do if my child is absent?

Ring the school at the start of each day of absence. On your child's return, write the reason in the 'absences' page of the student planner.

How much homework?

As a guide, about 30 minutes per subject in Year 7, average of 2 subjects per night. A variety of tasks will be set, some over a period of time. Time increases in subsequent years. A record of homework is kept in student planners that should be signed on a weekly basis.

Encourage a regular time and place for completing homework to set a routine and establish good study habits. Some students do struggle so parental support vital. Any problems, please make a note in the Student Planner for Learning Managers to follow up.

What if there is a problem?

Contact the Learning Manager or pastoral support assistant first, earlier rather than later so problems do not escalate. Never be worried of contacting the school - we work in partnership.

What arrangements are available for learning musical instruments?

A range of tuition is available but we cannot offer guarantees. A member of the music staff will be available on new intake to deal with any questions.

When are detentions given?

They are only used when necessary - brektime, lunchtime, home detention. After school detentions longer than 10 minutes are communicated to parents by letter. We expect parents to support the school sanctions.

What do you do about bullying?

We take the issue seriously. Incidents are investigated. Sanctions ultimately include exclusion, but also detentions, internal exclusions and working together with parents. **Do not agree to keep bullying a secret - let us know.**

Can my child cycle to school?

Road safety around school and site security necessitates our discouragement of bikes. A bike pass and helmet is required.

Are there lockers?

Yes, but not many. If students do want a locker, they will need to bring in a lock and two keys to their Pastoral Support Assistant in September. An ergonomically designed bag for carrying equipment has been researched and is available from Morleys.