

WELCOME TO



FEARNHILL
SCHOOL



Growing Excellence Every Day

A Guide for New Year 7 Students

2020-2021

YOUR SCHOOL
YOUR FUTURE

Contents Page

Title	Page Number
Year 7 students thoughts on Fearnhill School	3
The Four Houses	4
The House System	4
Form Tutor	4
A Normal School Day	5
Essentials for School	5
Example of a Timetable	6
Example of Extra-Curricular Activities	6
Top Tips for Being Prepared	7
What if I.....?	8
Term Dates	9

What do Year 7 students think about Fearnhill School?

"I think it's good, there are lots of subjects and a good variety."

"When you join you think the school is massive but after a couple of weeks I knew where everything was."

"It's an amazing school where you can make lots of friends!"

"The school is very welcoming and when you first start everyone is so nice to you."

"When you join in Year 7 it feels really different, it seems scary at first but once you get used to it you feel really grown up."

"The teachers are nice."

"It's a brilliant school where you learn many things."

"There are lots of good lessons."

"It's very inspirational."



The Four Houses

Howard	
Head of House House Colour	Mr Marsh (Assistant Headteacher) Blue
Neville	
Head of House House Colour	Mr Baker (Assistant Headteacher) Red
Pearsall	
Head of House House Colour	Ms Balchin (Head of Careers, WRL & PSHE/PE Dept) Purple
Gorst	
Head of House House Colour	Mr Spencer (Deputy Headteacher) Yellow

The House System

There is a very active House system at Fearnhill School and every child is placed into a Tutor Group in one of the four Houses shown above. The Houses are named in memory of local historical figures related to the early Garden City. Sir Ebenezer **Howard**, OBE – the founder of the Garden City movement who had a vision of a Utopian city in which people lived harmoniously together with nature. Sir Ralph **Neville** – the first Chairman of the Garden City Association. Howard D **Pearsall** – a member of the Fabian Society and Director of the first Garden City Ltd. Sir John **Gorst** – Manager of Schools at Letchworth following on from the role of ex-Minister of Education.

A spirit of friendly rivalry exists between the Houses who take part in regular inter-house competitions. Each House has a student House Captain and Vice Captain who encourage everyone in their House to get involved and have a sense of pride.

Each student is allocated to a House and will have a tie according to the colour of their house. Students are updated about the progress of their House and celebrate achievements through regular House Assemblies.

Form Tutors

There are four Tutor Groups in Year 7. Each Tutor Group has a mixture of boys and girls, pupils of all abilities, from lots of different Primary Schools. Each Tutor Group has its own Tutor and its own room. It is your Form Tutor who will meet you every Registration Period in your Form Room.

Your Form Tutor is a very important person as you will see her/him twice a day. They will get to know you better than any other teacher in the school – so if you have any questions or problems you can speak to your Form Tutor.

The Year 7 Tutors Groups are:

- 7G Miss Harrigan
- 7H Miss Straughn
- 7N Miss Cotter
- 7P Miss Jennings

A Normal School Day

Monday - Friday	
8.30 – 8:50	Long Registration
8.50 – 9.50	Period 1
9.50 – 10.50	Period 2
10.50 – 11.10	BREAK
11.10 – 12.10	Period 3
12.10 – 1.10	Period 4
1.10 – 1.55	LUNCH
1.55 – 2.00	Registration
2.00 – 3.00	Period 5

Essentials for School

Equipment

You can only do good work if you have the right tools and equipment to help you, so you must always have:

- a good quality pen- a rollerball not a ballpoint
- several pencils – HB for general use
- a ruler
- a rubber, a pencil sharpener
- a set of coloured pencils – they are far better than felt tips
- a pencil case
- a strong waterproof bag to carry your pencil case, books and student planner
- The correct books for each day (check your planner the night before)



Other Essentials

You might find it useful to have the following items – at home or at school:

- an English dictionary – not a small pocket one but a special school edition which is easy to use
- A labeled A4 plastic zip wallet for finished home learning – this is useful for those of you with poor memories as you can check it each lesson to see if there is home learning to be handed in
- A reading book – every student is required to have a reading book with them at all times

Please ensure your clothes and belongings are named.

Example of a Timetable

At Fearnhill we operate a two week timetable.

Colour coding lessons is a superb way of helping you plan for your day. For example, all Science lessons are colour green. Most teachers use the same method when they receive their timetables. The top line is the subject and the next line gives the teacher's initials and the classroom.

Period	Mon1	Tues2	Wed3	Thurs4	Fri5
1	Eng ACY E5	Lang KCS L5	Design Technology LFD T1	Eng ACY E5	Hums NFR H1
2	Sci EJS S13	Hums NFR H1	Sci EJS S13	Lang KCS L5	Business EDN B2
	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK
3	Art ICN T5	Science ADR S9	Eng ACY E5	PE LBN Field	Maths APT M3
4	Maths APT M3	Art ICN T5	Lang KCS L5	Eng ACY E5	Sci EJS S13
	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH
5	Hums NFR H1	Mu HLN MU2	Lang KCS L5	Eng ACY E5	PE LBN Field

Example of Extra-Curricular Activities

There is a variety of lunch hour and after school clubs; full details will be provided at the start of term. Listed below is just a sample of what we provide throughout the week:

Before School	Lunchtime	After School
Breakfast Club/Early Birds 8:00am – 8:30am	Supported Homework Club Sports Clubs (Changed seasonally) Book Club Hub Club Debate Club Chess Club Fearnhill Voices Choir Club Science Club Board games Club	Sports Fixtures/Clubs (Changed seasonally) School Production Rehearsals (during production time only)

'At Fearnhill students have the opportunity to get involved in a wealth of extra-curricular activities. The activities are offered by all subject areas and students are given the chance to further pursue areas of passion and interest. We aim to engage all of our students with the extra-curricular programme and have everyone attending and being part of at least one club.'

Visit our website and click on the days to find out what's on across all departments.

Top Tips for Being Prepared

- Check you have all the equipment you need ready for school.
- Check your timetable and make sure you have the right books, self-study, cooking ingredients or PE kit for the day.
- Check all possessions are named, including clothing. If anything is lost it will be taken to the Front Office. Named items can be easily returned.
- Make sure you leave the house wearing the correct uniform including shoes. Trainers are not permitted outside of PE lessons.
- Organise a place in your bedroom where you can store your books. This means you will always know where they are.
- Check your planner and Show my Homework for homework. Your parent or carer may also want to supervise and check homework is being completed. If you cannot do the homework you need to speak to your teacher before the deadline. Staff will also write notes in planners to parents and carers. Your planner must also be signed weekly.
- Always make sure you have a healthy breakfast, lunch and plenty to drink. It is important to keep the brain awake to get the most out of lessons. You are allowed bottles of water to sip during lessons as long as it has a sports cap. The exceptions are science and ICT lessons where no drinks are allowed.
- Before you start school in September time how long the journey to school or the bus stop takes. Make sure you leave home in plenty of time to reach school by 8.30am at the latest.
- Make sure you know the way to school. If you have a mobile phone use the alarm so you get here in plenty of time. Punctuality is as important as attendance as we will issue a 30 minute detention after school (L1).
- Make sure you know your parents'/carers' contact numbers, the Front Office also has a copy so we can contact home if we need to.
- Be sure you are clear about what time you are expected to be home and what to do if you are held up for some reason.
- If you get/are worried, then please remember we can all get worried about change. There will be a lot of students who will be on their own and everyone is keen to make new friends.

What if I...?

Problem	Solution	Who will help?
Arrive late to School 	Go to the Main Office. Sign the late board, hand in notes from parents with reason for lateness	Office Staff
Am being bullied? 	Always tell an adult	Parents, Head of Year, Pastoral Care Coordinator (PCC), any member of staff
Can't do my homework 	Go to Show my Homework	Teachers, your tutor, Head of Year, Pastoral Care Coordinator (PCC)
Can't remember my homework 	Tell your subject teacher	Teachers, your tutor, Head of Year, Pastoral Care Coordinator (PCC)
Can't find my way 	Ask for help	Any student or member of staff
Have forgotten my PE kit or Food Tech ingredients 	Explain to your teacher	Your PE teacher/Food Tech Teacher
Feel poorly 	Students may come to the Main Office at lesson changeover, break and lunch time	Someone from the Main Office
Lose my Equipment 	Inform your Form Tutor and the Main Office	Keep checking at the Main office as Lost Property is handed in there. If your items are named we can get your belongings back to you quickly.

Fearnhill School Term Dates

Autumn Term 2020	
Inset Days	Wednesday 2nd, Thursday 3rd September 2020
School opens for Autumn Term (Years 7 and 12 only)	Friday 4th September 2020
School opens for all Year groups	Monday 7th September 2020
Half Term	Monday 26th - Friday 30th October 2020
Return to school	Monday 2nd November 2020
Inset Day	Friday 27th November 2020
Occasional Day	Friday 30th November 2020
End of Term (early closure)	Friday 18th December 2020

Spring Term 2021	
Spring Term begins for students	Monday 4th January 2021
Half Term	Monday 15th - Friday 19th February 2021
Return to school	Monday 22nd February 2021
End of Term (early closure)	Friday 26th March 2021
Good Friday	Friday 2nd April 2021
Easter Monday	Monday 5th April 2021

Summer Term 2021	
Summer term begins for students	Monday 12th April 2021
May Bank Holiday	Monday 3rd May 2021
Half Term	Monday 31st May - Friday 4th June 2021
Return to school	Monday 7th June 2021
Inset Day	Monday 5th July 2021
End of Term (early closure)	Wednesday 21st July 2021
Inset Day	Thursday 22nd July 2021