



New Parent Guide: September 2024

**Frequently Asked Questions
and Information for the
Autumn Term**

THE FIRST DAY

School re-opens to pupils on Wednesday 4th September 2024.

We begin this academic year with our new school day timings, with all pupils expected on site by 8:30am.

On the first day, the school gates will be open to welcome our Year 7 pupils from 8:10am, and pupils should arrive from 8:10am ready for a prompt 8:30am start.

Staff will be on the school gates to welcome and guide the pupils into school, where they will join their form group in the Theatre. Staff will also be able to confirm form groupings if your child is unsure.

Year 7 will have the morning in school to spend time with their form tutor, complete a tour of the school and receive a copy of their timetable. Pupils in Years 8 to 11 will arrive to school from 11am. Year 7 will have lunch at 12:20pm and then attend their first couple of lessons.

We have included a copy of the new school day timings below:

8:10am	School gates open LRC Open
8:30am	All pupils on site
8:35 - 9:00am	Celebration of the Word / Form Time
9:00 - 10:00am	Lesson 1
10:00 - 11:00am	Lesson 2
11:00 - 11:20am	Break
11:20am - 12:20pm	Lesson 3
12:20 - 1:55pm	Period 4 and Lunch
12:20 - 12:55pm	First Lunch
1:20 - 1:55pm	Second Lunch
1:55 - 2:55pm	Lesson 5
2:55 - 3:00pm	Prayer and Liturgy
3:00pm	Pupils Dismissed
3:00 - 4:00pm	LRC Open (Closes Friday at 3:30pm) Extra Curricular Activities

TRAVELLING TO SCHOOL

We are aware that pupils starting high school may start to travel with friends or via different methods than primary school such as: walking, cycling or public transport.

St. Gregory's is accessible via a number of bus routes, and we encourage families to research the best route for their child to use when travelling to/from school, ahead of their first day of travel. It may be useful to make a note of the bus numbers your child can use to travel home in case of any unexpected schedule changes or delays, particularly if they join any extracurricular activities after school as the timings may differ.

We have included a copy of the 254 bus schedule overleaf for you to review, should this route cover your area; this will be particularly relevant to those travelling to/from Burtonwood.

Many members of our school community cycle to/from school and the school site is equipped with bike racks in order to store pupil bikes during the school day. We encourage families to check the routes to school prior to their first journey, and for children to cycle safely wearing a helmet and ensuring visibility when cycling, particularly as we enter the winter months.

We understand that parents/carers may want to bring their child to/from school via car, however please be aware that routes immediately around school can become congested especially in the first term as pupils settle in to school. Staff are on the gate at the end of the school day to support pupils with exiting the site safely, however we do encourage parents/carers to collect from alternative, nearby meeting points where possible e.g. Waterways.

If pupils live nearby and will walk to/from school, we would always encourage pupils to walk with friends or with others that live close by opposed to walking or travelling on their own.

We would like to remind pupils that should there be any issues with the collection arrangements they have made with parents/carers, or they are unsure about travelling home then they should return to school where staff will be available to support them.

St. Gregory's does not require parents to inform us of collection arrangements and pupils will be allowed off site at the end of the school day without a parent/carer; this information was required on our Transition Days to safeguard the children as they were unfamiliar with the end of day procedures and to ensure the safe exit of pupils from St. Gregory's site.

254 BUS SCHEDULE

Should you have any queries regarding the below service, including obtaining bus passes etc, please contact School Enquiry at: schoolenquiry@stgregoryshigh.com

The 254 bus service is provided by MD Bus & Coach LTD, and the below schedule has been updated in preparation for September 2024.

MORNING SCHEDULE	
LOCATION	TIME
DERBYSHIRE HILL ROAD	07:30
NEW BOLD	07:40
BURTONWOOD POST OFFICE	07:48
CALLANDS ST DAVIDS DRIVE	08:00
WESTBROOK ASDA	08:05
CHAPELFORD PUB	08:10
OLD HALL SHOPS	08:15
ST GREGORY'S HIGH	08:20

AFTERNOON SCHEDULE	
LOCATION	TIME
ST GREGORY'S HIGH	15:15
OLD HALL SHOPS	15:20
CHAPELFORD PUB	15:25
OLD HALL SHOPS	15:30
CALLANDS ST DAVIDS DRIVE	15:35
BURTONWOOD POST OFFICE	15:47
NEW BOLD	15:55
DERBYSHIRE HILL ROAD	16:05

SCHOOL EQUIPMENT

As your child progresses through Year 7, they will rotate through a number of subjects including Art and Design Technology activities which may require additional equipment for a short period of time; these details will be communicated with pupils and parents in advance of the planned activity, such as food technology equipment.

Please see below day-to-day equipment list for pupils at St. Gregory's:

- School bag
- Pupil Handbook (Provided on the first day)
- Pencil case
- Black/Blue/Red pens
- HB pencils
- Eraser
- 30cm ruler
- Highlighter pens
- Whiteboard marker
- Pencil sharpener
- Coloured pencils
- Glue stick
- Casio Scientific Calculator
- Compass
- Protractor
- Reading Book

Please note that during food technology sessions, school will be able to provide required ingredients for children in receipt of free school meals.

Pupils will also need to bring their PE kit into school as required, based upon their timetable.

Form Tutors will complete equipment checks regularly during form time and will have a small selection of equipment to support pupils if needed.

TIMETABLES

Pupils will receive their personal timetable on their first day, during form time. Pupils will have time to take a look through their timetable and classes, and ask their form tutor any questions they may have.

Pupils will have form time followed by five lessons each day, with each lesson lasting an hour.

St. Gregory's follows a two week timetable pattern, referred to as 'A Week' and 'B Week', and pupils will be able to view both their A and B week lessons on their timetable. The timetable alternates in order and will pause and then recommence in the same pattern following a half term or school break. For example, if pupils finish the Autumn term on an 'A Week' they will return in January on a 'B Week'.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR OPPORTUNITIES

St. Gregory's offers a variety of extra-curricular activities both within and in addition to the usual school day timings.

Pupils will receive information regarding the extra-curricular clubs on offer during their first couple of weeks at St. Gregory's, and will discuss signing up to any activities during form time.

Activities during the school day can include: Chaplaincy Team, Student Advocates, Mental Health Advocates for example.

Our after school offerings vary across our subject areas and can update during the school year, such as our PE/Sports activities rotating through a variety of sports dependent on the school term and season/weather.

We encourage all of our new starters to take part in at least one club or activity as it aids in the settling in process, and helps pupils to make new friends that share similar interests to them.

Pupils are also welcome to visit our Learning Resource Centre (LRC) both before and after school where they host themed activities such as our annual World Book Day quiz and various competitions. Our LRC also provides a quiet space for pupils to complete homework tasks, read and often a game of chess!

CLASS CHARTS

St. Gregory's use Class Charts in order to set and monitor homework activities for our pupils. Staff will upload and assign homework tasks for pupils to complete, the activity will detail the task set and when it is due.

Class Charts can be accessed via an internet browser or an app, using a login personalised to your child. Pupils will receive their login information for Class Charts and be shown how to access Class Charts easily as part of their Computing lesson.

Parents/Carers will also receive a separate login code in order to view and manage your child's homework activities too; this login can be used via the Class Charts app or through a browser.

Staff can also share announcements and messages with pupils and parents/carers via Class Charts, this may include updates on extra-curricular activities or upcoming events.

From September 2024, parents will also be able to see your child's attendance, punctuality, behaviour and achievement records. This will be updated on a daily basis so you will be able to track your child's attendance and their behaviour and achievement points from the previous day.



ATTENDANCE

St. Gregory's values and places emphasis on pupil attendance and punctuality to school, as this is essential to pupils' educational success.

We are proud to have been recognised for our positive pupil attendance, and expect pupils to have excellent overall attendance of **97% or above**.



St Gregory's Catholic High School

Attendance Matters



Percentage Attendance	Number of Days Absence	Learning Missed in 1 Year	Learning Missed over 5 Years
100%	0 Days	0 Lessons	0 Lessons
97%	6 Days	30 Lessons	150 Lessons
95%	9.5 Days	48 Lessons	240 Lessons
93%	13 Days	65 Lessons	325 Lessons
90%	19 Days	95 Lessons	475 Lessons

In order to achieve your 97% target for attendance, you can have no more than 2 days off per term.

AMBITION FOR ALL

Awards are also shared throughout the school year to recognise full and improving attendance, as well as outstanding punctuality to school. Pupil's attendance is also a key factor in eligibility for trips and rewards. For example, to qualify for the end of year trip to Alton Towers, pupils must have attendance of 97% or above for the whole school year.

If your child is absent from school for any reason, please ensure you contact our Attendance Team - Mrs Spence and Mrs Walsh, by 8:30am on the first day of your child's absence. Parents/Carers should contact school each day their child is absent from school.

We ask that parents/carers arrange appointments outside of school hours wherever possible, however we do appreciate that there are times where this cannot be avoided. If your child has an appointment, please provide a copy of the appointment letter/details to our Attendance Team so that we can record the absence accordingly. If a pupil needs to leave school early in order to attend an appointment, they must be collected by an adult and will not be allowed off site without supervision.

Our Attendance Team can be contacted on: 01925 574888 or
by emailing: attendance@stgregoryshigh.com

CATERING

St. Gregory's utilises a cashless vending system for all food and drink purchases within school.

Pupils will access the cashless system via their fingerprint (biometric registration) or via an assigned pin code, these details will link to a cashless account, and allows parents/carers to top up their child's balance with a debit or credit, as needed. Parents will have an online account which can be accessed via the "I Pay Impact" website or app. School meals, trips and the school levy can all be paid via this account.

Pupils in receipt of free school meals will have their cashless account balance topped up automatically each day, and there is no difference in the system use or purchasing process.

Our Catering Manager follows a three week rotating menu, offering a variety of choices daily. Pupils do not pre-order and will be able to select their items from the offerings available within the canteen each day.

Please see the catering menus overleaf to share with your child ahead of September.

Should your child have any specific dietary requirements or food allergies, please ensure you have provided this information to school so that we can arrange a brief meeting to take place between your child and our Catering Manager—Mrs Long, after they start with us.

We kindly ask that a packed lunch is provided for your child in order for us to facilitate the necessary meetings with our Catering Team and ensure your child feels comfortable in the food choices available to them within school.

Our canteen is also open before school for breakfast items, as well as at break time for pupils to purchase snacks or drinks prior to lunch.

Our breakfast offerings include the following items on a rotation, available once a week: Crumpet, toast, bagel with jam, hash brown, beans on toast, porridge and hot chocolate.

Pupils who are in receipt of free school meals are also able to access the breakfast items pre-school (until form time begins) at additional charge or deduction from their lunch funds.



Week One				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<i>meat dish ... meat dish ... Fish dishes ...</i>				
Fishwich on a bun with wedges £2.15 <i>**see file for allergens**</i>	Lasagne & garlic Bread £2.15 <i>**see file for allergens**</i>	Roast Dinner £2.15 <i>**see file for allergens**</i>	Southern fried chicken strips & croquettes £2.15 <i>**see file for allergens**</i>	Fish/ fishcakes, chips. Fish finger butty <i>**see file for allergens**</i>
<i>vegetarian dish ... vegetarian dish ...</i>				
Spring rolls with sweet chilli noodles £2.15 <i>**see file for allergens**</i>	Vegetable & spinach pakora £2.15 <i>**see file for allergens**</i>	Broccoli & Cauliflower Pasta Bake £2.15 <i>**see file for allergens**</i>	Vegetable fingers with wedges £2.15 <i>**see file for allergens**</i>	Cheese & onion Pasty £1.05 <i>**see file for allergens**</i>
<i>alternative dish ... alternative dish ...</i>				
Variety of Hot baguettes or wraps <i>**See file for Allergens**</i>	Variety of Hot baguettes or wraps <i>**See file for Allergens**</i>	Variety of Hot baguettes or wraps <i>**See file for Allergens**</i>	Variety of Hot baguettes or wraps <i>**See file for Allergens**</i>	Variety of Hot baguettes or wraps <i>**See file for Allergens**</i>
<i>alternative dish ... alternative dish ...</i>				
Jacket potato with various fillings* <i>**see file for allergens**</i>	Jacket potato with various fillings* <i>**see file for allergens**</i>	Jacket potato with various fillings* <i>**see file for allergens**</i>	Jacket potato with various fillings* <i>**see file for allergens**</i>	Jacket potato with various fillings* <i>**see file for allergens**</i>
Selection of cold sandwiches wraps, pasta pots , baguettes	Selection of cold sandwiches wraps, pasta pots , baguettes	Selection of cold sandwiches wraps, pasta pots , baguettes	Selection of cold sandwiches wraps, pasta pots , baguettes	Selection of cold sandwiches wraps, pasta pots , baguettes
Selection of Cakes, biscuits. Fresh fruit & yoghurts <i>**see file for allergens**</i>	Selection of Cakes, biscuits. Fresh fruit & yoghurts <i>**see file for allergens**</i>	Selection of Cakes, biscuits. Fresh fruit & yoghurts <i>**see file for allergens**</i>	Selection of Cakes, biscuits. Fresh fruit & yoghurts <i>**see file for allergens**</i>	Selection of Cakes, biscuits. Fresh fruit & yoghurts <i>**see file for allergens**</i>
Any special Dietary requirements please ask a member of the catering team				

Week Two				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<i>meat dish ... meat dish ...</i>				
Sausage , mash & Gravy £2.15 <i>**see file for allergens**</i>	Chicken, bacon & cheese wrap £2.15 <i>**see file for allergens**</i>	Cottage pie & veg £2.15 <i>**see file for allergens**</i>	Chicken with sweet chilli noodles £2.15 <i>**see file for allergens**</i>	Fish/ fishcakes, chips. Fish finger butty <i>**see file for allergens**</i>
<i>vegetarian dish ... vegetarian dish ...</i>				
Cheese & onion quiche with salad £2.15 <i>**see file for allergens**</i>	Vegan Sausage roll £2.15 <i>**see file for allergens**</i>	Tomato pasta bake with Garlic Bread £2.15 <i>**see file for allergens**</i>	Macaroni cheese with Garlic Bread £2.15 <i>**see file for allergens**</i>	Cheese & onion Pasty £1.05 <i>**see file for allergens**</i>
<i>alternative dish ... alternative dish ...</i>				
Variety of Hot baguettes or wraps <i>**See file for Allergens**</i>	Variety of Hot baguettes or wraps <i>**See file for Allergens**</i>	Variety of Hot baguettes or wraps <i>**See file for Allergens**</i>	Variety of Hot baguettes or wraps <i>**See file for Allergens**</i>	Variety of Hot baguettes or wraps <i>**See file for Allergens**</i>
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Selection of cold sandwiches wraps, pasta pots , baguettes	Selection of cold sandwiches wraps, pasta pots , baguettes	Selection of cold sandwiches wraps, pasta pots , baguettes	Selection of cold sandwiches wraps, pasta pots , baguettes	Selection of cold sandwiches wraps, pasta pots , baguettes
Selection of Cakes, biscuits. Fresh fruit & yoghurts <i>**see file for allergens**</i>	Selection of Cakes, biscuits. Fresh fruit & yoghurts <i>**see file for allergens**</i>	Selection of Cakes, biscuits. Fresh fruit & yoghurts <i>**see file for allergens**</i>	Selection of Cakes, biscuits. Fresh fruit & yoghurts <i>**see file for allergens**</i>	Selection of Cakes, biscuits. Fresh fruit & yoghurts <i>**see file for allergens**</i>
Any special Dietary requirements please ask a member of the catering team				

Week Three				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
meat dish ... Fish dish				
Beef Chilli & rice £2.15 **See file for Allergens**	Beef Burritos £2.15 **See file for Allergens**	Roast Dinner £2.15 **See file for Allergens**	Meat Feast Pasta bake £2.15 **See file for Allergens**	Fish/ fishcakes, chips. Fish finger butty **see file for allergens**
vegetarian dish ...				
Ricotta & spinach ravioli £2.15 **See file for Allergens**	Veg Samosas /salad £2.15 **See file for Allergens**	Spicy bean burger £2.05 **See file for Allergens**	Macaroni cheese bites With salad £2.15 **see file for allergens**	Cheese & onion Pasty £1.05 **see file for allergens**
alternative dish ...				
Variety of Hot baguettes or wraps **See file for Allergens**	Variety of Hot baguettes or wraps **See file for Allergens**	Variety of Hot baguettes or wraps **See file for Allergens**	Variety of Hot baguettes or wraps **See file for Allergens**	Variety of Hot baguettes or wraps **See file for Allergens**
alternative dish ...				
Jacket potato with various fillings* **see file for allergens**	Jacket potato with various fillings* **see file for allergens**	Jacket potato with various fillings* **see file for allergens**	Jacket potato with various fillings* **see file for allergens**	Jacket potato with various fillings* **see file for allergens**
Selection of cold sandwiches wraps, pasta pots , baguettes				
Selection of Cakes, biscuits. Fresh fruit & yoghurts **see file for allergens				
Any special Dietary requirements please ask a member of the catering team				

School Meal Price List

Breaktime

Toast, per slice £0.25

Drinks

Water £0.70

Flavoured Water £0.70

Viva Milkshake £0.60

Lunchtime Sweet Treats

A selection of cakes with of without custard £0.80

Fruit £0.45

Yoghurts £0.55

Biscuits £0.70

Daily Lunchtime Menu

Cold Menu

Variety of Baguettes or Wraps £2.10

Variety of Sandwiches £2.00

Pasta Pots £2.10

Salad Pot with filling £2.10

Hot Menu

Plain Pasta £1.00

Pasta King £2.00

Chicken Fillet on a Bun / Spicy bean burger on a bun £2.05

Variety of Hot Baguettes / Wraps £2.00/£1.95

Pizza -Cheese/ Meat £1.35/£1.40

Pizzini -Cheese/ Meat £1.35/ £1.40

Jacket Potato Plain £1.00

Jacket Potato + 1 filling £1.50

Jacket Potato + 2 fillings £2.00

Curry & Rice £2.15

Fish £1.00

Fish & chips £2.15

Fishcake £0.50

Fishfinger butty £1.00

Cheese & onion pasty £1.05

Sausage roll £1.00

Pies £1.05

Chips £1.50

Beans £0.50

Gravy/ Curry £0.20

Sachets of sauce £0.10

SCHOOL LOCKERS

We do have a small number of lockers within school, which are reserved for our Year 7 pupils in order to support in their transition to high school, and additional organisational skills.

If pupils would like to use a locker during their first year at St. Gregory's, they will be asked to inform their form tutor who help make the arrangements for them. Pupils will be charged a small fee in order to arrange the locker keys and due to the limited capacity, pupils will share their locker with another Year 7 pupil, typically within their form group. The locker allocations will be arranged by your child's form tutor within form time.

KEY DATES

Throughout the school year, St. Gregory's will communicate any key dates or events to parents as well as including these within our termly newsletters and on the school website.

Tempest photography will be visiting school to photograph our new Year 7 pupils on Monday 9th September; printouts will be sent home with pupils following the session containing your order details, should you wish to purchase a copy of the image.

St. Gregory's is also visited by the Bridgewater Community Nurses throughout the year who deliver childhood vaccinations/immunisations. Should any of the immunisation dates be suitable for Year 7 pupils, the relevant consent form and immunisation information will be communicated to parents and carers electronically. Please note that school simply facilitate the vaccination sessions and all correspondence should be through the nurses team as outlined in any consent forms provided. To parents.

We hope the information included within this booklet is helpful in preparing for your child's first day with us in September, and supports in alleviating some questions or worries your child may have in the coming days. In addition to this, we have also shared with you helpful information provided by the NHS to support with your child's transition to high school.

We very much look forward to welcoming your child to St. Gregory's in September!