

## Turner Free School – Frequently Asked Questions

The following responses relate to “normal” times. Some of our routines are currently slightly different to allow for adjustments due to Covid-19.

Question	Response
<b>What will my son or daughter need to bring on the first day?</b>	All scholars will be in full school uniform. They will need to bring in the equipment outlined in the Family Handbook, e.g. pens, reading book etc... They should also bring a drink bottle, which can be re-filled at key points during the day.
<b>What will my son or daughter do in the first week of term?</b>	The first week will introduce your son or daughter to our expectations and learning habits. We will also carry out some baseline testing, including a reading test, so that our teachers can plan their lessons to ensure all scholars progress well.
<b>Can my son or daughter bring a packed lunch?</b>	No. At TFS, every member of our school community will take part in Family Dining every day. We will share a delicious meal, cooked on site together.
<b>Do I have to pay for breakfast club?</b>	No. We provide all scholars with a free breakfast between 8:00 and 8:30 every day. A snack is available at break time and this does have a charge, which is currently 50 pence.
<b>How do I pay for Family Dining, snacks and other activities?</b>	All payments can be made via your ParentPay account. The cost of the lunch time meal is currently £2.30. If your son or daughter is in receipt of Free School Meals, then there is no charge for Family Dining (snacks are not covered by FSM).
<b>What time does school start and end?</b>	Scholars are welcome on-site any time from 8:00 until 17:00. Lessons run from 8:45 until 15:45 every day.
<b>How many lessons are there in a day?</b>	There are 6 fifty-minute lessons a day. In addition, all scholars have Morning Meeting at 8:45 and D.E.A.R (Drop Everything and Read) time after Family Dining.
<b>Is my son or daughter allowed a mobile phone in school?</b>	Scholars may bring a phone to and from school, but it must be kept switched off and in their locker during the school day. If you need to contact your son or daughter, please call Reception or their Pastoral Leader.
<b>Are there any school buses?</b>	No, there are no buses specifically allocated to Turner Free School scholars. Buses run regularly to and from Cheriton High Street, which is a short walk away from the school.
<b>Will my son or daughter receive homework?</b>	Yes. Details of this are outlined in the Family Handbook. Scholars will be provided with a homework timetable in September.
<b>Will TFS provide additional support for homework?</b>	Yes. Scholars are able to access homework support before and after school. Homework Club runs until 17:00 every day.
<b>What do I do if my child is not able to attend school due to illness?</b>	Please contact us on 01303 842400, option 3, by 9:00 if your son or daughter is going to be absent from school.
<b>Where can I buy uniform from?</b>	Uniform is available to order in person on the Transition Day, or via the Price and Buckland website: <a href="https://www.price-buckland.co.uk">https://www.price-buckland.co.uk</a>

<b>What shoes are acceptable for school?</b>	All shoes must be: sensible; plain black; 'polishable'; non-trainers; not canvas; without heels; without logos. If you are in any doubt with regards to the suitability of shoes, please email a picture to Miss Tyler or Mr Chapman.
<b>When should scholars bring in their PE kit?</b>	Scholars should bring their PE kit to school on the day of their PE lesson. Scholars should choose their PE kit as appropriate to the weather, e.g. ensuring that they wear their tracksuit bottoms/legging and hoody in the winter. They should also bring their PE kit into school for any extra-curricular clubs, or sporting fixtures.
<b>What is D.E.A.R Time?</b>	D.E.A.R stands for Drop Everything and Read time. Scholars will have the opportunity to read at an allocated time every day. This provides them with the chance to hone their skills, and to receive additional support if necessary. Scholars may bring in suitable books from home, or choose books from the library. If scholars bring books from home, these may be fiction, or non-fiction, however, comics and magazines are not acceptable texts for D.E.A.R time.
<b>What are the "Great Minds" lectures?</b>	In addition to our curriculum, we offer an inspirational series of talks to complement scholars' learning. Lessons are reminiscent of visiting a museum exhibit with each week focusing on a key figure in history. Scholars taught about who they were, what they contributed to the world and how they remain influential to our modern life. These lessons aim to expose scholars to people and places they may not otherwise experience, arming them with powerful knowledge and helping them to better understand how throughout history, great minds have changed the world.
<b>Will my son or daughter take part in trips?</b>	Yes, as the school grows, we are hoping to offer a range of trips, which will bring learning to life for our scholars. We will always endeavour to ensure that you are given plenty of notice and that any costs are kept to a minimum.
<b>Will my son or daughter be able to take part in extra-curricular activities? Will there be a cost?</b>	Yes. We will publish details of extra-curricular activities each term. These will include sports, the arts, debating etc... We will endeavour to provide as many activities for free as possible. However, where we may need to bring in additional coaches, there may be a small cost to parents. Scholars are welcome in school until 5:00 every day.
<b>What support is available for SEND?</b>	Our SENDCo Miss Baker will happily answer any queries regarding SEND support or assessment. She can be contacted at: <a href="mailto:tfssendco@turnerschools.com">tfssendco@turnerschools.com</a> .