



**THE SKIPTON  
ACADEMY**

# **YEAR 6 INTO 7 TRANSITION**

20

26



# INTRODUCTION

Welcome to The Skipton Academy; a vibrant learning community that is dedicated to developing the potential of each and every one of our students.

As we begin the transition process, we want to take this opportunity to welcome all of our students and their families to our academy. At The Skipton Academy, we strive to provide an inclusive and ambitious curriculum and an atmosphere of respect and understanding, underpinned by our school ethos of Belong, Challenge and Inspire. We believe that each student is unique and should be given the opportunity to reach their full potential.

We recognise that transitioning to a new school can be a challenging process. That is why we have created this transition booklet to support and guide you through this process. It will provide you with information about the school, its programs and services, and the expectations we have for our students and families.

We understand that your child's success depends on a strong connection between home and school. That is why we are committed to fostering a positive and supportive partnership with our students and their families.

Our teachers and staff are here to help you throughout the transition process and to provide the necessary tools, resources, and support to ensure your child achieves their full potential both academically and pastorally, and we look forward to welcoming you at this exciting time on your child's educational journey.

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# MESSAGE FROM MR COOK

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Welcome to The Skipton Academy. As Principal, I'm delighted that you have chosen our school. Here at The Skipton Academy, we strive to provide an ambitious curriculum that empowers all of our students, enhances your views of the world and gives you every opportunity to achieve academic success and develop as individuals.

We believe that education is about more than just passing tests and examinations. Our ethos of **Belong, Challenge and Inspire** captures our vision for education. We want all of our students to feel they belong to our school community; to feel safe, connected, understood and supported.

We look forward to meeting you and working together to ensure you have the best start in life. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to get in touch.



**"I love the inspiring environment of The Skipton Academy. It makes me want to strive for the best!"**

Year 7 Student

# ACADEMY ETHOS

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At The Skipton Academy, we are committed to providing our students with the best possible education and support. The schools' ethos of Belong, Challenge and Inspire is embedded in all aspects of school life. Our ethos is to ensure that all of our students have the opportunity to develop their full potential, both academically and personally. We believe in creating a positive, welcoming and safe environment for our students and staff, where everyone is respected and supported.

We have a commitment to high-quality teaching, learning and assessment, and we strive to provide our students with the opportunity to develop their skills, knowledge and understanding beyond the national curriculum. We are also committed to developing our student's understanding of their wider role in society, and we focus on social, moral, spiritual and cultural development.

At The Skipton Academy, we are focused on encouraging a growth mindset and developing our students' resilience, initiative and ambition. We are committed to fostering an environment where our students can take risks, ask questions and make mistakes without fear of judgement. We want our students to be confident, independent thinkers who are able to make informed decisions and take responsibility for the choices they make.

At The Skipton Academy, we believe that education should be an enjoyable experience, and we strive to ensure that our students are engaged, motivated and inspired. We are committed to providing our students with a wide range of extra-curricular activities, trips and experiences to help them develop and grow. We want our students to leave The Skipton Academy with the skills, knowledge and confidence to be successful in their future lives.



# MEET THE TEAM

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## **Mr Cook - Deputy Principal**

Welcome to The Skipton Academy! As Deputy Principal for behaviour and personal development, I am looking forward to working with you all and helping you to settle into our school community. Every day, we strive to create an environment that encourages strong relationships, independent learning and personal growth. We want you to feel supported and inspired as you start your journey at The Skipton Academy. We are dedicated to helping you develop good habits and behaviours that will support you in making the most of your time here. You will soon become part of our school and form lifelong friendships. Above all, we want you to enjoy your experience and to take ownership of your learning. We look forward to getting to know you and helping you to realise your potential!

## **Mrs Dudley - Deputy Principal**

Welcome to The Skipton Academy. I am Mrs Dudley, Deputy Principal for Quality of Education, and I am delighted to have you join us this September. We pride ourselves on providing an ambitious and inclusive education for all our students, and I am confident that you will be given the very best support and guidance throughout your time here. We are committed to ensuring that all our students have the opportunity to achieve their full potential and to become the very best they can be. We are here to help you to develop your enthusiasm and passion for learning, and I hope you will take full advantage of the many opportunities we offer. I look forward to meeting you all soon and to seeing you make great strides in your academic and personal development

## **Miss Brown - Head of Year 7**

Welcome to The Skipton Academy Year 7 students! I am Miss Brown and I am your Head of Year. I am so excited to welcome you to our school and I am looking forward to getting to know each and every one of you. At The Skipton Academy, we have a fantastic team of teachers and support staff who will be here to help you settle in and make the transition to secondary school as smooth as possible. We strive to provide an inclusive environment where you can thrive and reach your full potential. Our school has a range of activities and facilities that you can take advantage of. You can join a range of clubs, take part in sports and music, or get involved in our student council. I want to assure you that I am here to support you during this transition process and I look forward to getting to know you all.

# ACADEMY

# CURRICULUM VISION

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Here at TSA our curriculum offer is underpinned by our school values of *Belong, Challenge and Inspire*, where we provide a curriculum that ensures all our students are enriched and developed throughout their academic and personal journey from years 7 to 11 and beyond.

Our aim at The Skipton Academy is to provide an inclusive and ambitious curriculum, to empower and challenge all our students to achieve academic success, in order to progress onto their chosen next steps.

We also recognise the power of education to open doors and support the growth of cultural and social awareness, in order to give our students 'a seat at the table', so that they can make a positive difference to their own lives and the lives of others. Through our rich and varied curriculum, we enhance our students' views of the world beyond their own; our students develop a cultural capital that allows them not only to feel a sense of belonging to their own community, but also to understand and articulate diverse points of view, whilst recognising the importance of kindness, tolerance and respect for the views of others.

Our goal is to inspire all our students to appreciate the power of knowledge and education, sparking intellectual curiosity, a thirst for self-improvement and a motivation to be the best version of themselves, achieving success in all they do.



**"The Skipton Academy's ambitious curriculum pushes me to reach my full potential and explore new ideas and knowledge that I wouldn't have access to otherwise."**

Year 11 Student

# SUBJECTS

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At secondary school, you get to experience a wide range of subjects, taught by subject experts. At TSA we have made sure that you experience a broad and balanced curriculum so that you will build strong knowledge and skills to equip you for your chosen career and life after the academy.



**English**



**Art**



**Maths**



**Food Technology**



**Science**



**Design Technology and Textiles**



**History**



**Music**



**Geography**



**Performance**



**Computing**



**Personal Development**



**French**



**Physical Education**

# THE ACADEMY DAY

Our school day starts at 8.45 am sharp, this is when the school gates will be shut, and all students should be in the tutor room ready for the ready-to-learn time (RTL) . Arriving after this time will incur a 'late' sanction. If you wish to be on the school site earlier than this, you are welcome to arrive at our dining hall from 8.00am where a selection of cereals and baked goods will be available to purchase. Students in receipt of free school meals will have an additional £1 accredited to their accounts to be used during the breakfast club.



## 8.45am

Start

You will attend five lessons per day in a range of subjects and will be given your timetable with classrooms and teachers on your first week with us. You will also be given a Form Group and Tutor and you will take part in daily Dedicated Reading Time (DRT) with year group specific text.

Take a look at our sample timetable to get a feel for what your days will be like at our academy. From Dedicated Reading Time sessions to our after-school activity slot, TSA days will be packed with motivational learning. All students are expected to be on time for school and for lessons. Each day, all students must be in the tutor room be ready to learn with all the equipment they need by 8.45am. Our aim is to get you into excellent habits for your time in school and the workplace



**"The school day at The Skipton Academy is always filled with exciting activities, interesting lessons and plenty of opportunities to learn something new - I always look forward to it!"**

Year 8 Student

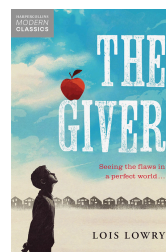
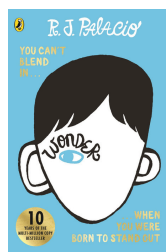
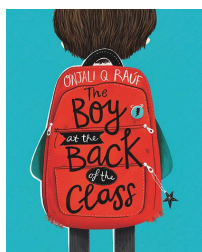
# DEDICATED READING TIME

At The Skipton Academy, we are passionate about ensuring all our students become competent, confident and fluent readers who can fully access our broad and challenging curriculum.

As a result, we have developed a robust literacy and reading strategy to ensure that all our students can experience a rich and diverse reading curriculum, whilst developing the requisite vocabulary, reading, writing and oracy skills to succeed in all subjects.

Vocabulary is explicitly and systematically taught both in lessons and during Dedicated Reading Time to enable students to understand the relationships between words and nuances of meaning. A wide vocabulary will empower students to articulate their thoughts, emotions and ideas effectively as well as enabling them to engage more deeply with the written and spoken word. Through reading in particular, students have a chance to develop culturally, emotionally, intellectually and socially. Children who can read are overwhelmingly more likely to succeed at school, achieve good qualifications, and subsequently enjoy a fulfilling and rewarding career.

Central to our literacy and reading strategy is our Dedicated Reading Time which takes place four times a week after registration and Ready to Learn time. Students follow a well-sequenced reading curriculum, enjoying a wide range of texts which will be read aloud by their form tutors. Reading aloud to children has a profound effect on their reading ability allowing them to hear the expression and intonation that is essential for language learning and vocabulary acquisition. Motivation to read is closely related to reading ability. Consequently, we model effective reading so that all students can participate irrespective of their starting points. We make reading something that all students can access both physically at the same time and place each day and emotionally where they are able to feel like a valued members of The Skipton Academy reading community.



# THE ACADEMY DAY

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Session	Timings	Duration
Access to the site Dining Hall Opens	8.15am - 8.40am	35 minutes
Ready to Learn Time	8.45am - 8.55am	10 minutes
Dedicated Reading Time	8.55am - 9.15am	20 minutes
Period 1	9.15am - 10.15am	60 minutes
Break	10.15am - 10.40am	25 minutes
Period 2	10.40am - 11.40am	60 minutes
Period 3	11.40am - 12.40am	60 minutes
Lunch	12.40am - 1.15pm	35 minutes
Period 4	1.15pm - 2.15pm	60 minutes
Period 5	2.15pm - 3.15pm	60 minutes
Extra-Curricular Clubs	3.15pm - 4.00pm	45 minutes

# DINING

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The Skipton Academy provides students with a wide range of catering and meal options. All meals are freshly prepared on-site using locally sourced ingredients. The menu changes regularly to ensure that students have access to a variety of healthy food options. Students are able to choose from a range of meal options including hot meals, sandwiches, salads, and more. There is also a breakfast menu available each morning.

At all times TSA students are expected to behave in a calm and respectful manner in the dining hall and queue sensibly to purchase food. At TSA you will use your ID card to purchase your food electronically from our tills, this will automatically deduct money from your account. Parents/carers will be emailed full information about how to set up and top up your account including full details about eligibility for free school meals. You are welcome to bring a healthy packed lunch should you prefer and we recommend that you bring a refillable water bottle (water only) to keep you hydrated throughout the day.

Please note that the academy does not allow and will confiscate/sanction the following items in accordance with its promotion of healthy eating:

- Energy or fizzy drinks
- Chewing/bubble gum
- Family or multi-packs of sweets, biscuits, and crisps.

**"The Skipton Academy has some amazing dining options. I'm always excited to see what new dishes they've cooked up! It's definitely one of the highlights of school life here."**

Year 7 Student

# EXTRA-CURRICULAR

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We truly believe in a holistic approach to education, encouraging and inspiring all our students to explore a wide range of extra-curricular interests and helping them to develop their individuality, their way.

Our school ethos aims to produce individuals who are well-rounded and able to meet the challenges of life in the 21st century and feel strongly that personal development is greatly enhanced by the challenge of a wide-ranging extra-curricular programme across all sections of the school.

At The Skipton Academy, we place huge importance on the opportunities that students receive outside of their normal timetabled lessons and the advantages that they provide. From developing essential life skills such as team-building, goal-setting, public speaking, and leadership skills to higher self-esteem and a long-term commitment to a project, these opportunities are designed to enhance a young person's time in school.

We feel strongly that participation in these activities gives students the opportunity to develop interests that may influence their future careers or broaden their worldviews.

Whilst we hope that participation will enhance CVs and future university applications, we also have faith that our students will have fun and make new friends whilst enjoying their time at The Skipton Academy, leaving at the end of their years of study with a little extra to go with their outstanding academic attainment.



# ENRICHMENT

School trips and outdoor enrichment opportunities are an important and memorable part of your education. They enhance learning, improve staff/student relations in the classroom and help you to become more independent, grow in self-confidence and develop teamwork and leadership skills.

A typical programme at a glance:

Year 7: Option 1	The Big Mix
Year 8: Option 1	The Big Trip
Year 9: Option 1	The Big Outdoors
Year 8 & 9: Option 2	The Big Ride
KS3: Option 1	The Big Skipton Spectacular
TMP Students	The Big Lookout Adventure
Year 10	Work Experience Week
Year 10	The Big Parisian Adventure
KS4 Students	World Challenge Expedition: Borneo

The programme of activities planned for all year groups will give students a varied and enjoyable end-of-year experience throughout their school career.



# EXPECTATIONS

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At TSA our high expectations extend to every inch of our academy, including how you conduct yourself when travelling to and from school. We want our students to be polite, calm, and courteous and to always be positive role models for the academy. You will be expected to walk calmly around the building and to behave respectfully at social times, looking after the school environment and wearing your uniform with pride.

Any student failing to follow TSA expectations, the first time, every time, will be subject to school sanctions. TSA's Positive Behaviour policy is applied consistently by all staff to ensure that no moment of learning time is lost and that every student feels safe. Our complete system of sanctions and rewards will be explained in detail to you during the TSA Be Awesome Day and you will find a summary of this in all classrooms around the school. Your Form Tutor will support you with guidance and reminders during the first few weeks and beyond to help you develop your positive learning habits.



**"The Skipton Academy is a great place to make friends and build relationships. I'm so glad I'm part of this school!"**

Year 9 Student

# BEHAVIOUR FOR LEARNING EXPECTATIONS

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Students need to have positive behaviour for learning in order to be successful. Positive behaviour encourages students to be engaged and interested in learning, fostering an environment of respect and collaboration among classmates. Positive behaviour for learning also helps to create a sense of community in the classroom, promoting a positive atmosphere for learning and collaboration. Positive behaviour for learning can also help to build self-confidence and self-esteem, helping students to feel comfortable in their learning environment. To ensure students succeed in their learning, staff and students follow our behaviour for learning expectations, this can be seen below.



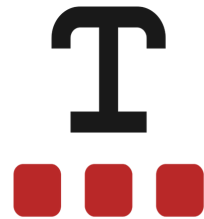
All students are fully equipped for every lesson



Exercise books are clean and free of graffiti



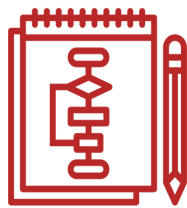
All worksheets are stuck into books and dated



Spellings are corrected in green pen



Work is completed in blue or black ink and any corrections are completed in green pens



Diagrams, charts and tables are completed using a pencil and ruler



Dates, titles and 'Do Now' are underlined with a ruler



Respect is shown for each individual and our work environment



Key vocabulary and powerful knowledge are highlighted each time they are used



Verbal answers are given clearly, in full sentences and using standard English



# CLASSROOM REWARDS

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At The Skipton Academy, you are rewarded with Positive Behaviour Points for excellent behaviour and effort. By following the TSA expectations, you will succeed. Ways you may be recognised with Positive Behaviour Points include:

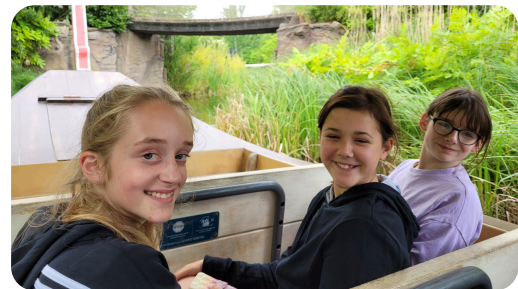
- Working hard on a piece of classwork or homework
- Making a positive contribution in class or to the academy
- Setting an example to others



Positive Behaviour Points then lead to...

Each term we celebrate your success and you will be recognised by:

- Attending a special awards assembly
- A text message home to congratulate you
- Subject Awards to recognize effort, resilience and attainment
- A certificate and letter home
- Rewards events such as trips and special events within the academy.



**"I love that The Skipton Academy rewards hard work and encourages us to strive for excellence. It makes me feel motivated and inspired to keep working hard!"**

Year 9 Student

# CLASSROOM REWARDS

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At TSA we love nothing better than rewarding excellent effort, exemplary behaviour and participation. We do this regularly in lessons, corridors, assemblies and social times, we are always on the lookout!

Our rewards are called Positive Behaviour Points which will be awarded throughout the school day and logged on the computer system. The more points that you achieve, the more awards and prizes you will win; these will be handed out at the end of every term. You can win Bronze, Silver, Gold and Platinum certificates and phone calls home and even be invited to reward trips or receive fantastic prizes. Every week you stand a chance to win, 'TSA Star of the Week' and other esteemed titles.



**At The Skipton Academy, we understand the importance of rewarding our students for their hard work and dedication. We believe that providing recognition for accomplishments is key to developing a positive school culture and motivating students to strive for excellence. Rewarding our students sends a message that their efforts are appreciated and valued. We are committed to developing a culture of excellence where students can be proud of their achievements and strive to reach their highest potential.**

# CLASSROOM CONSEQUENCES

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Our behaviour system is really clear and is designed to ensure that you are supported in adopting positive learning habits from the very moment that you join us. At TSA we are passionate about your education and we will not accept any interruptions to learning. If you follow our behaviour system in and around the academy then you never receive a sanction. TSA students should be on time, on task and act out our core values at all times.

## Choice

You are preventing learning and will be reminded to correct your behaviour

## Restorative Conversation

You will be expected to attend a restorative conversation to address your behaviour

## Behaviour negative

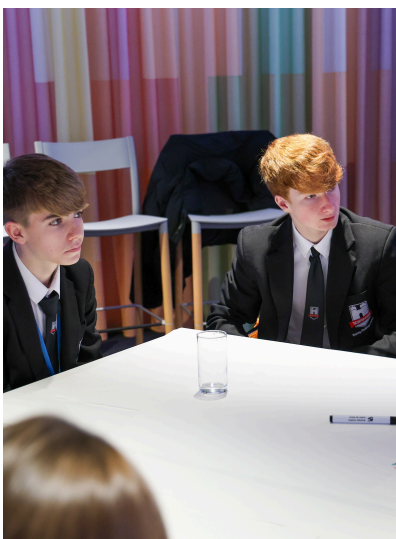
Your behaviour hasn't improved and a negative will be logged

## On-Call

Your behaviour continues to prevent learning and a member of the SLT will speak to you

## Detention

An accumulation of behaviour negatives will result in an after-school detention



**"The restorative conversations I have had with my teachers at The Skipton Academy have enabled me to build a more positive relationship with them and also to better understand the expectations they have of me. It has been a valuable experience."**

Year 8 Student

# EQUIPMENT

Being fully equipped is an important part of being a TSA student and there are several items that we expect you to bring into school every single day. You will need to bring a bag to carry your equipment, home learning and P.E kit on the days that you have P.E and extra-curricular activities. (This will not be on your first day at the academy). You will be required to bring the below equipment everyday with you to school.



**At The Skipton Academy, being prepared is essential for success, both academically and in life.**

# SCHOOL UNIFORM

Our uniform is sensible, practical and smart and we expect that students will wear it with pride. Students can expect to be challenged where they fall short of our high expectations. Students are ambassadors for the school when they are out in the community and wearing school uniform and are expected to behave accordingly.

## Blazer, Shirt, Tie, Hair Cut & Colour

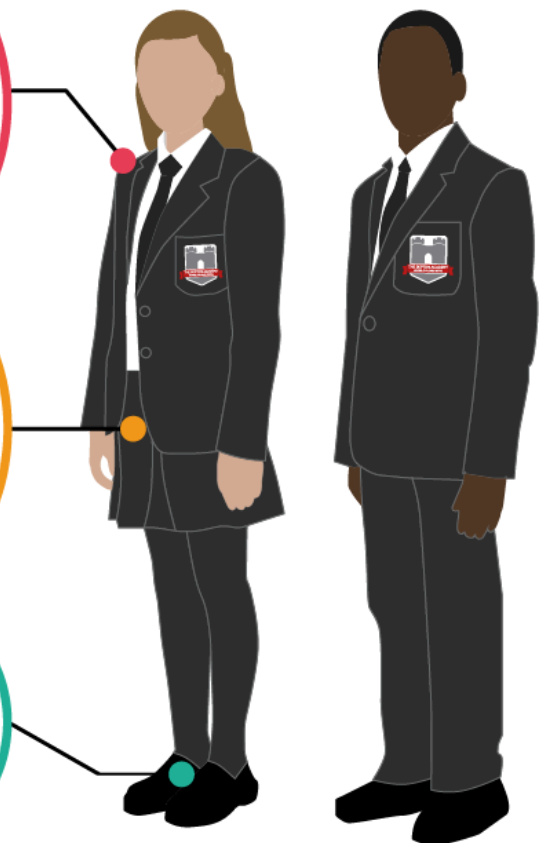
Black blazer with the school crest. White shirt that must be worn buttoned at the neck and tucked in; short fitted styles are not acceptable uniform. School tie with the crest and red stripe. Hair colour and style must be appropriate to school. Extreme cuts and styles including 'tram lines' or colours are not acceptable. Plain, V-necked in black pullover is optional but must contain the academy logo. Headscarf if worn needs to be black.

## Trousers, Skirts, Jewellery & Make-up

Black, tailored trousers. Hipsters, flares or overlong trousers are not acceptable. Students must not wear jeans, chinos, joggers or slim/skinny fit etc. Black pleated skirt must be worn with plain black opaque tights and not leggings. Pencil and tube skirts are not permissible. Jewellery and make-up should not be worn. Students are permitted to wear one stud earring in each ear lobe.

## Footwear & Coat

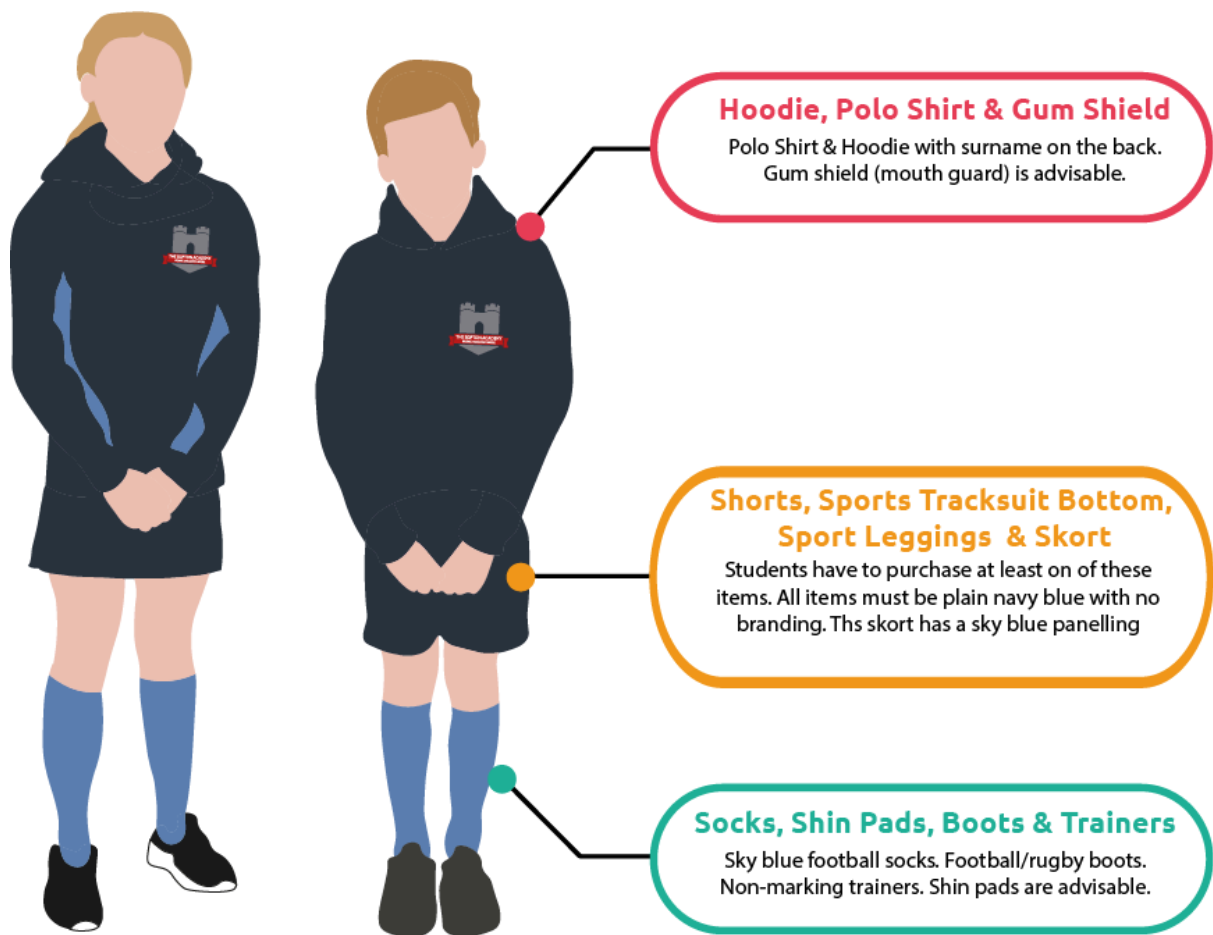
Sensible black shoes or plain black trainers. Footwear mustn't have any additional colouring and any logos must be black. Shoes must be either flat or with low heels. Students are permitted to wear a coat outside at break and lunchtimes over the top of the blazer.



**We cannot wait to see you in September looking smart in your new uniform. The correct uniform should be worn at all times within, and on the way to and from, the academy. If you arrive in incorrect uniform, you will be given a sanction and will be expected to borrow an item of clothing so that your learning is not disrupted.**

# PE UNIFORM

At TSA we have excellent sports areas. We want our pupils to be dressed appropriately and feel ready to get active. It's important to us that students wear the correct P.E. uniform at all times. You will be able to purchase all our uniform from Skip to School or via Jaybee Supplies



Doing physical exercise helps to boost physical health, mental well-being and overall performance. It can help to improve concentration, reduce stress and fatigue, and increase energy levels. Additionally, it can help to build team spirit, foster cooperation, and create a sense of camaraderie. Therefore, it is essential that students make time to incorporate physical exercise into their daily activities.

# ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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## Lost Property

Please ensure that your uniform/equipment is named; secondary school is a much larger setting and things can go missing very easily if not. All lost property should be handed in at reception. If a student loses any item they should ask at the reception if it has been found. Named items are returned to students via Form Tutors. Items that are not named are placed in lost property. These are held until the end of term.

## Phones and Technology

You are allowed to bring them to school but it must be switched off and stored in your lockable Yondr mobile phone pouch. If your parents/carers need to contact you, they will phone the main reception and ask for a message to be passed on to you.

## Transport

We encourage all students, where possible, to walk or cycle to school. For those students living outside of Skipton, we ask parents and students they allocate enough time, to ensure they arrive to school on time

# ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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## SEND Support

We understand that some of our young people need additional support in order to access the curriculum and we endeavour to provide a range of support that helps our students with additional needs to feel a part of the school community. We welcome any contact from parents and carers, whether you already have a child attending our school or if you would like to come and look around the school and meet the team.

## Useful Contacts

Transition:

Email: [adminn@theskiptonacademy.co.uk](mailto:adminn@theskiptonacademy.co.uk)

Pre-Loved Uniform:

Email: [uniform@theskiptonacademy.co.uk](mailto:uniform@theskiptonacademy.co.uk)

Adam McDonnell - SENDCo/Assistant Principal:

Email: [a.mcdonnell@theskiptonacademy.co.uk](mailto:a.mcdonnell@theskiptonacademy.co.uk)

Sarah Brown - Head of Year 7 and Transition Lead:

Email: [s.brown@theskiptonacademy.co.uk](mailto:s.brown@theskiptonacademy.co.uk)


# NOTES

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# NOTES

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# LET THE ADVENTURE BEGIN

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We are excited to welcome you to Skipton Academy! This is an incredible opportunity for you to explore and develop your academic and social interests, as well as make new friends. Our staff is dedicated to providing a safe and nurturing environment, so you can feel comfortable and secure as you take on new challenges. We are looking forward to seeing you take advantage of all the amazing opportunities Skipton Academy has to offer!

**We look forward to welcoming you to The Skipton Academy as our class of 2031**

## Contact

### **The Skipton Academy**

Gargrave Road

Skipton

North Yorkshire

BD23 1UQ

[www.theskiptonacademy.co.uk](http://www.theskiptonacademy.co.uk)

[facebook.com/SkiptonAcademy](https://facebook.com/SkiptonAcademy)

[instagram.com/theskiptonacademy](https://instagram.com/theskiptonacademy)

