



LANDAU
FORTE
COLLEGE
DERBY



You will have received a lot of information but we hope these extra bits are reassuring. We are keen to support every student to transition successfully but we know some need a little bit of extra thought. If there is something we have not covered so far, please get in touch with us on lifeatlandau@landa-forte.org.uk

With warm wishes,
The Individual Needs Team



School Bags

At Landau, most students use their lockers to store their exercise books and equipment. Students do not carry school bags around the building. However, this means that each morning they must collect what they need for the day to carry with them. For students with additional needs, this can be very challenging hence we often make exceptions. Please let us know if you would like your child to be able to wear their school bag during the day. It must be a rucksack in black or blue.

Uniform

Similarly, sometimes our uniform policy needs some minor adjustments for students. Do they need to wear short sleeves or have a loose top button because of their sensory needs? Do they need to wear loose fitting clothing due to a skin condition? Are they a wheelchair user and need to wear black joggers instead of school trousers? Whatever it might be, we would like to be aware of this arrangement and make provision for it in advance so please get in touch.



Attendance



We have a robust attendance policy for very good reason, we know that being in school equals success in school. In fact, if their attendance is 95% every year it equates to 2 weeks off every year. By the time your child reaches Year 11, they will have missed a quarter of an entire year! That said, we also know coming to school can be really challenging for some young people. Our IN team sit at the weekly attendance meetings and consider supportive strategies to aid attendance. As with everything else, the earlier we know this is a barrier, the better. Be honest with us and let us think creatively about how we might help.



ILP

If your child has a special educational need/s, we will write them an Individual Learning Plan (ILP). This is done in consultation with yourself and your child to ensure it reflects them. The purpose of this document is to detail your child's needs and the strategies that are best suited to their support and learning. They are shared with your child's teachers. There are two formal review opportunities every year; the parents evening which the IN team attend and their PT consultation. We will also review it if there needs to be any changes. It is a flexible document that we work on together so always chat to us if needed.



Homework



Homework is an important part of building independent learning skills and we introduce it in Year 7. We have an online system that we really recommend you get to grips with. It is called Show My Homework and you will receive your own log-in to help you check, monitor and support your child to manage their work load. We know working at home can be a source of stress and conflict for some young people hence we offer a homework club for students with needs. This year it has run after school Mon, Tues and Wed. We will keep you updated if those days change.

A Safe Place

We often call our Learning Support area 'T6'. It is consistently staffed by our Learning Support Managers, specialist support staff who will get to know your child if they need to use the area. We use it flexibly but ultimately it is a place your child can go to if they need support with anything. Within T6, we have a sensory zone, our Calm Corner. If you think your child needs structured sensory breaks or time out from learning to manage their emotions (whether it be anxiety, stress, anger or otherwise) please let us know so we can plan for this.

T6





What can you do over the summer?

- Practice wearing the uniform
- Practice the route to school until your child is confident
- Talk about school in a positive way together
- Look at the transition booklet together
- Watch the virtual tour and email us any issues, questions or just a hello
- Familiarise yourselves with the names of your team: The Y7 team, The IN team and their personal tutor

One week countdown

- Make sure you have school uniform, shoes and PE kit ready - we recommend putting their name in everything somewhere
- Organise packing of school bag/lunch if needed
- Use your information from LFCD to go over what will happen on the first day
- Keep your example copy of school time table on the fridge and practice reading it
- Create a morning routine checklist to build independence - use visuals if helpful

The day before!

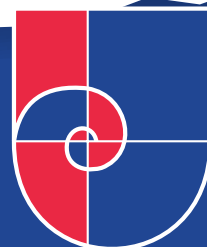
- This is a great day to make sure everyone is up like it's a school day, it will make the next day feel less overwhelming
- If you need to, practice the journey again
- Review the timetable and lesson times again as a reminder
- Have a look at the menu online in advance so they can consider what to have and how the menu selection works
- Get an early night! You too!

The big day arrives!



Plan their favourite tea!

- Check their bag is packed, uniform is on and they feel ready for the day
- Go back to the transition booklet and remind them who can help
- Remind them where to go if they are struggling, worried or lost
- Remind them what time they will be coming home again



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