



Welcome to Ilkley Grammar School

A STUDENT'S GUIDE





Here is a message from our Headteacher – Mrs Purnell

I am absolutely thrilled that you will be joining our school community in September. I know that moving to secondary school can bring a mix of excitement and nerves – and that's perfectly normal! However, I want to reassure you that we will help you to settle in quickly, and you are going to have a fantastic time with us.

At IGS there are so many exciting opportunities for you, both inside and outside the classroom. We encourage you to take advantage of these different experiences, as they will help you grow, learn, and make unforgettable memories. You will also have the opportunity to meet a lot of new people and make friendships that could last a lifetime.

There are over 250 teachers and support staff at IGS and every adult here is committed to supporting you – whether it's through your learning, offering guidance, taking care of your well-being or working behind the scenes. If you ever need help, have a question or a concern, there will be someone here for you.

We are all looking forward to welcoming you in person during the transition process before you start fully in September as one of our “Green Ties.” It's going to be an exciting journey, and we can't wait to share it with you!

Best wishes,
Mrs Purnell



What the students say...
'I really appreciated the amount of things I was able to do at the start of Year 7 from the amazing trip we did, to the teachers who didn't mind if we got a little lost.'

How will you help me to get ready to come to Ilkley Grammar School?

You may feel a mix of emotions about coming to secondary school. It is quite normal to feel a bit worried because starting secondary school is a big change. We are a very friendly and welcoming school and we can all remember what it feels like starting year 7. We will do everything possible to help you settle in as quickly and happily as possible.

We will visit your primary school on the roadshow and bring some special guests. You will also come and visit us during the summer term for a discovery day with your primary peers and a transition day to meet your form and Form Tutors. Your parent/carers will also be invited to a transition evening.

We also hold a sport and teambuilding day at Ben Rhydding Sports Club in September after the summer holidays. The fun will start in the first few weeks of joining IGS (Ilkley Grammar School) with your new classmates and teachers, and you will spend some exciting days packed full of fun activities. You will learn lots about yourself and build so much self-confidence when you find what you are capable of. The days are also a great way to start making new friends.



PRIDE



RESPECT



COURAGE



RESPONSIBILITY



KINDNESS



RESILIENCE

Key Staff

You will have a wealth of support at IGS. Below is our core 2025 team who will guide you through your first academic year at IGS and beyond!

Dedicated Head of Year: **Mrs Hessey**

Student Support and Transition Manager: **Mrs Varley**

Transition Lead: **Mr Ewbank**

Progress and Experience Leader (PrExL): **Miss Allen**

Assistant Headteacher (Student Experience: KS3) **Mr Carr**

Assistant Headteacher: Attendance and Safeguarding: **Mr Calvert**

Deputy Headteacher: Behaviour and Attitudes: **Mr Ford**

KS3 Inclusive Learning manager: **Mrs Iliff**



Mrs Hessey



Mrs Varley



Miss Allen



Mr Ewbank



Mr Carr



Mr Calvert



Mr Ford



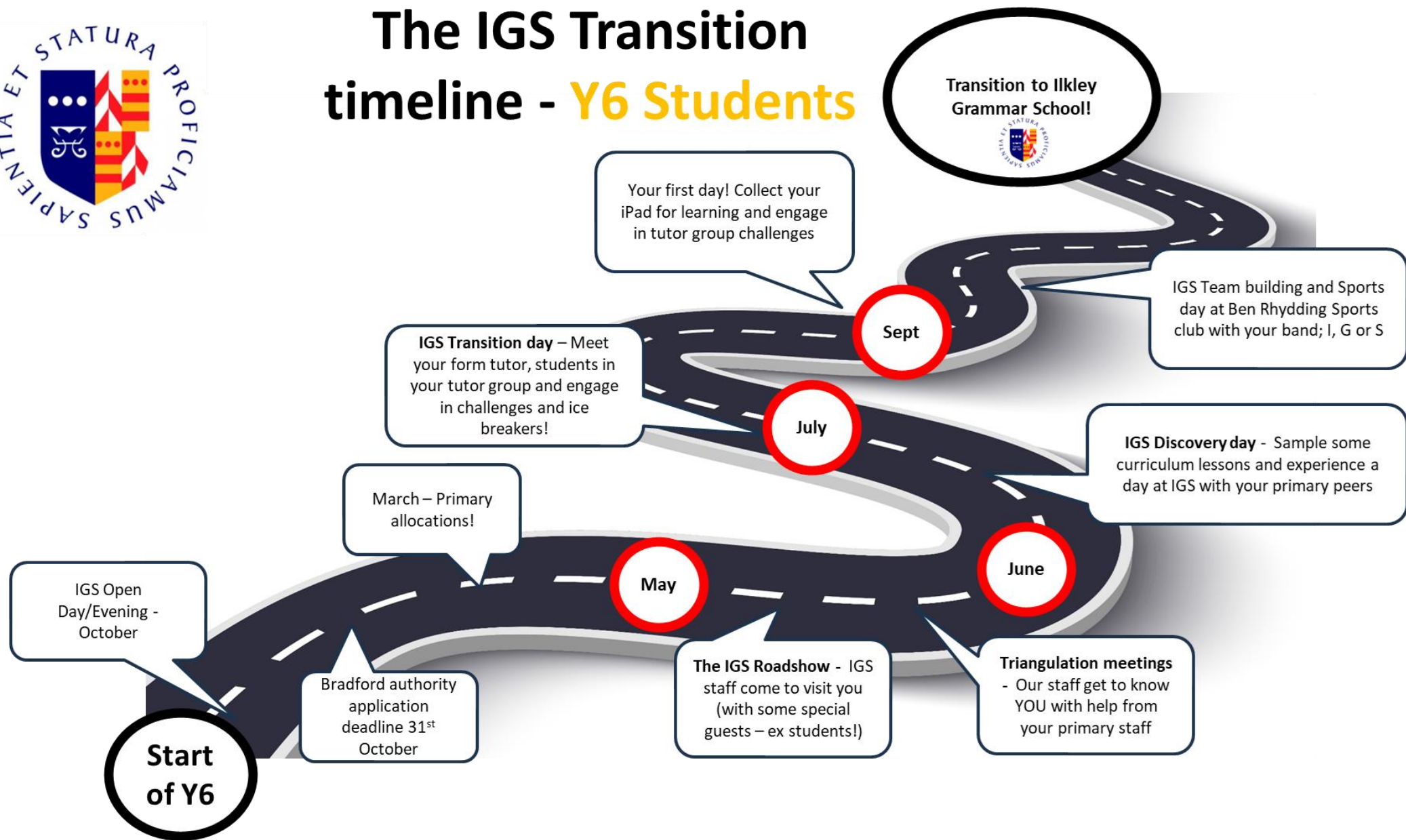
Mrs Iliff



Transition Roadmap



The IGS Transition timeline - Y6 Students



Transition dates!

Date	Activity
Friday 14 th March	Acceptance of place at IGS!
Ongoing through transition period	Contact with primary schools about you!
1 day in May/June	The IGS Roadshow: this is your chance to find out all you want to know about IGS. You will enjoy a visit at your primary school from some of the year 7 pastoral team to give you a flavour of what life will be like as a pupil at Ilkley Grammar School. You will also have the opportunity to ask any questions ahead of secondary transition in summer 2025.
1 day in June/July	IGS Discovery Days: This is chance for you to really understand what life at Ilkley Grammar School is all about! You will spend a day on the IGS site enjoying a sample of some curriculum lessons in our specialist classrooms, being taught by our subject experts. You will also get to see the IGS site on an operational school day and enjoy lunch in one of our catering areas.
Tuesday 1 st July 2025	Y6 Transition Day: Your final step on your transition roadmap before you depart your primary schools and join the IGS team! You will attend IGS with the whole new year 7 cohort. It will be fantastic to have you all together in your first assembly and then meet your form tutor and tutees. During the day you will explore the school site once again to aid orientation, engage in some tutor group icebreakers and activities, enjoy lunch at IGS and meet key staff members.
Tuesday 2 nd September	First day of Y7
September 9 th , 11 th 12 th (TBC)*	IGS Teambuilding and Sports Days: Enjoy a day of team building and sports activities at Ben Rhydding Sports Club with tutor groups within your band! On this day you will engage in some sporting activities and some mind-boggling team building strategy challenges which will put your communication and creativity to the test. This is your final stop on the transition roadmap; we have every faith you will make a seamless transition to IGS following this programme of events.



We believe in excellence in everything, which means we expect you to present yourself smartly and wear your uniform with pride

KS3 IGS UNIFORM

- Black, flat, plain shoes or ankle boots
- Socks or black tights
- Grey pleated skirt or plain dark grey trousers
- Plain black belt
- Plain white shirt, top button done and tucked in
- Blazer with school crest
- School tie, crest showing
- Any non-branded plain black or grey jumper (Tie must be visible)
- School hoodie or coat may be worn outside
- Headscarf in black, grey, or year group tie colour



At IGS, you should also bring the following items with you every day in a strong backpack:

- Blue or black pen
- Sharp pencil
- Fully charged iPad
- Scientific Calculator (Can be purchased via Parent Pay from school)
- Ruler
- Sharpener
- Rubber
- Compass
- Protractor
- Full set of coloured pencils
- Glue stick
- Scissors for cutting paper
- Reading book •
- Earphones
- Green pen
- For drama – a clean pair of trainers, jazz or ballet shoes



What happens in a school day?

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday		
Years 7-11 & 13		
Time	Activity	Duration
8:25-8:40	Tutor Period	15 mins
8:40-9:30	Period 1	50 mins
9:30-10:25	Period 2	55 mins
10:25-10:45	BREAK	20 mins
10:45-11:35	Period 3	50 mins
11:35-12:30	Period 4	55 mins
12:30-13:15	LUNCH	45 mins
13:15-14:05	Period 5	50 mins
14:05-15:00	Period 6	55 mins

Wednesday		
Years 7-11 & 13		
Time	Activity	Duration
8:25-9:05	PBT	40 mins
9:05-9:55	Period 1	50 mins
9:55-10:50	Period 2	55 mins
10:50-11:10	BREAK	20 mins
11:10-12:00	Period 3	50 mins
12:00-12:55	Period 4	55 mins
12:55-13:40	LUNCH	45 mins
13:40-14:35	Period 5	55 mins

These are the timings for the school day.

You will move between classrooms for each lesson and have different teachers. Don't worry about finding your way around. If you get lost, older students and teachers will be happy to help. You will very soon know where everything is and feel at home.



What about food?

We have a brilliant canteen which serves food in B: Hall at break and lunchtime.

Snacks are available at break and the lunchtime menus will be issued to you in advance, with options like pizza, paninis, wraps, pasta pots, sandwiches or a full roast dinner, followed by delicious tray bake choices, fruit, and flavoured waters.

You can also bring a packed lunch from home.

*If you ever forget your lunch or find your account doesn't have enough money, don't worry – speak to someone at the year 7 hub or reception



What will I study?

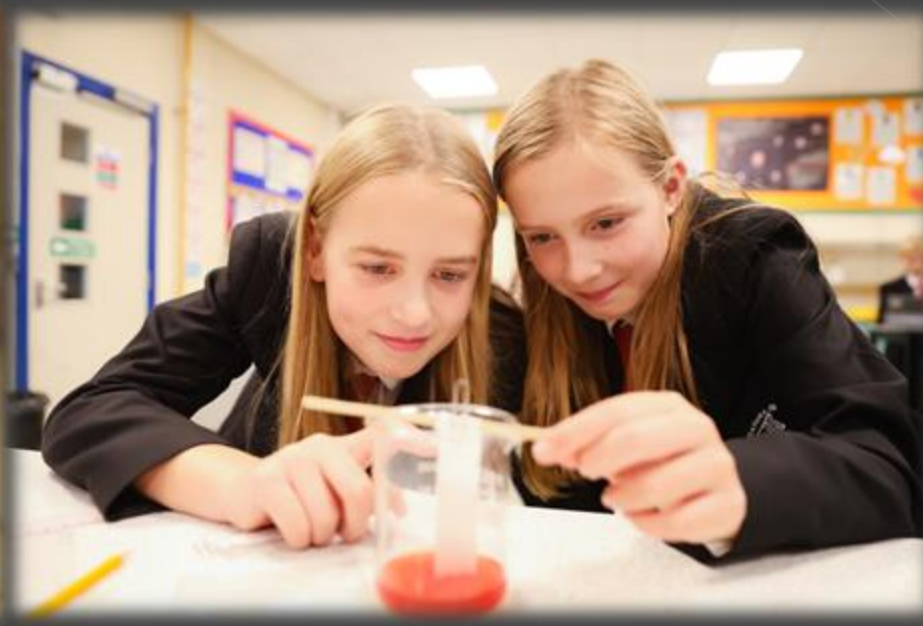
You will continue studying lots of subjects you studied in primary school. There are lots of brilliant new subjects in year 7.

This is what you will study: English Mathematics Science History Geography
French/Spanish PE RE Computing Technology Art Drama Music PSHE

What about books and reading? At IGS we love books. Reading a range of texts is of course very important in all your lessons. In PBT, you will also read a range of exciting books.

We also have fantastic facilities including:

- ❖ Fully equipped art classrooms with printmaking facilities, photography equipment and ceramics equipment including two large kilns
- ❖ Floodlit netball/tennis courts
- ❖ IT rooms with specialist drawing programs
- ❖ 3D printers
- ❖ Textile specialist areas with sewing machines and pattern cutting facilities
- ❖ Fully equipped food technology classrooms
- ❖ ...and lots more!



What is expected of me?

We have clear school values which everyone at Ilkley Grammar School is expected to uphold. These include:

Kindness: We are kind and compassionate. We are respectful. We are honest and trustworthy. We treat everyone the way we would like to be treated

Resilience: We seek out new challenges. We are resilient and determined. We have high aspirations. We dream big. We know that setbacks are part of learning and growing and do not let them defeat us.

Pride: We work hard. We pursue excellence. We persevere. We support each other and celebrate with pride our own and each other's achievements.

How do I follow these values in everyday life at Ilkley Grammar School?

- We have simple rules about how you should behave. They keep our school a friendly and supportive place where everyone can learn and reach their full potential. This is what the IGS learner should look like:
 1. You will arrive on time and be ready to learn when you enter the room.
 2. You will take pride in your work and present it neatly, dated and with titles underlined. Look after your exercise books and keep them in an excellent condition.
 3. You will take part in lessons – ask and answer questions.
 4. You will come prepared for all lessons and look after your equipment, including your PE kit.
 5. You will complete your homework and ask your teacher if you need help.
 6. You will be prepared to work hard on your own, with a partner and in groups.
 7. Trust your best in everything. It will not always be easy, and you will make mistakes - that's OK. Keep trying!



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What happens when I have done well?

- We ask you to do your best in everything and we will reward you when you have done well in the classroom and outside.
- When a teacher or member of staff sees that you have displayed one of our values, they will give you an 'Achievement' and you and your parents/carers are able to view these on Edulink. You may also be nominated for the prestigious Headteacher's Award!
- At the end of term, we also run Celebration Assemblies for each year group.



What do I do when I need help?

We all have problems from time to time. We know you can only do your best when you feel happy and safe, so please let us know if you are worried about anything at school or at home.

You will get to know your Form Tutors really well, so they will be the best person to speak to. You can also speak to your Head of Year, or any of the team based in your hub on P Floor. They will listen to you and help. It always helps to talk.



What extra-curricular activities can I take part in?

We have lots of clubs and activities on offer at IGS which take place at lunchtime and after school.

We have sports clubs including:

- Football for girls and boys
- Rugby
- Basketball
- Netball
- Badminton
- And, sports matches after school and at weekends

We also have eco clubs, homework club, art club, science club, drama, choir, dance, and music clubs. You can do music lessons, including singing, and we have a wide variety of instruments available.

You can also take part in charity fundraising, trips and school productions.





You may want to carry on with a hobby or sport that you already love. Or you may find a new interest.

- We will offer you once in a lifetime opportunities and we really want you to make the most of what is on offer.
- Taking part in these activities can help you make new friends and help you feel you belong to Ilkley Grammar School. They will help you believe in yourself when you test yourself by trying something new.
- And you will feel a sense of pride as you achieve more than you ever thought possible.





We can't wait to welcome you to Ilkley Grammar School!

