



Thornleigh
Salesian College

YEAR 6 WELCOME GUIDE

Key Stage 2 - Key Stage 3 transition



About this Guide

A warm welcome to Thornleigh Salesian College, Year 6.

This guide will provide you with some helpful information about life at our school.

It is very difficult to predict what school life is going to look like in September. Even so, there are some bits and pieces that you should know, and do, to help you prepare for life in secondary school.

There are some tasks for you to complete at the back of the guide.

Don't forget, you can use our digital platforms to keep yourself updated:

- Twitter (with an adults permission): @tsc2to3
- YouTube: TSC 2to3 channel
- Website: Parents > KS2-KS3 Transition

If you have any questions, please get in touch via email:

TSC2to3Questions@thornleigh.bolton.sch.uk



The Spirit of our School

School Mission Statement

Thornleigh Salesian College is a community rooted in faith in Jesus, where all are valued, loved and cherished so they can aspire for academic excellence in an atmosphere of compassion and forgiveness which seeks to reach out in service and gratitude.

Who are The Salesians?

The word 'Salesian' derives from a seventeenth-century thinker and saint, Francis de Sales. The Salesians were founded in Italy in the nineteenth century by 'Don' Bosco to serve the young. Today, The Salesians are an order of Catholics.

Who is Don Bosco?

St. John Bosco or Don Bosco was a Catholic priest from northern Italy. He dedicated his life in the service of young people, especially those who were poor. He wanted every young person to know that they were loved, he did this by enabling them to have the best start in life - doing the ordinary thing, extra ordinarily well.

He told his students that a life with a good home, strong schooling, excellent friends and the love of God is the ultimate aim. This later became known as his oratory model - home, school, church and playground. Don Bosco's inspiration touched the hearts of many so much so, he set up a family of people to continue his work. Today that family is led by the Salesians of Don Bosco (SDB), his Salesians.

In the world today, there are 15,298 SDB in 132 countries across all 7 continents. In the UK, there are 62 SDB's in 6 secondary schools, 7 parishes, 2 universities, 1 youth hostel and 1 residential centre.



Every January, on or around 31st, we celebrate the life of Don Bosco on our feast day. This is called Don Bosco Day.

Rector Major: Fr Angel Fernandez Arttime SDB

Provincial: Fr Gerry Briody SDB, Bolton, UK

At Thornleigh Salesian College, student's attitude to learning is defined by four Salesian principles:

- Respect – valuing yourself, others, the environment and resources
- Understanding – have an awareness and tolerance of others and forgive mistakes
- Affection – care for, appreciate and be positive towards others
- Humour – smile, be cheerful and celebrate your own and others achievements

We expect those four principles to be demonstrated in student's attitude to learning within classroom settings, through their character and in and around the school community.



Director of RE
Miss McKenna



School Chaplain
Fr. Saju John

About You

Before you read on about our school, it is important that you think big. You deserve to succeed and we want to help you achieve your Plan-A. Complete the five short tasks below.

Task 1

Who is your role model?

Task 2

Identify three things that make that person a role model to you.

1

2

3

Task 3

What would be your dream job?

Task 4

What qualifications might you need to get there?

Task 5

What personal character qualities will you need to achieve your Plan-A?

Lead Staff in Year 7

Senior Leadership Team



Headteacher
Mrs O'Callaghan



Deputy Heateacher
Mr Fitzsimons



Deputy Headteacher
Mr Kirk



Assistant Headteacher
Mr Bingley



SENCO
Mr Tye

Year 7 Care, Guidance and Support Team



Year Leader
Mr Smith



Assistant Year Leader
Mrs O'Grady



Year 7 in Numbers

1,250

students in
school

280

students in
Year 7

10

form groups

A Alpha	B Beta	G Gamma	D Delta	Z Zeta
K Kappa	T Theta	S Sigma	L Lambda	O Omega

10 form teachers

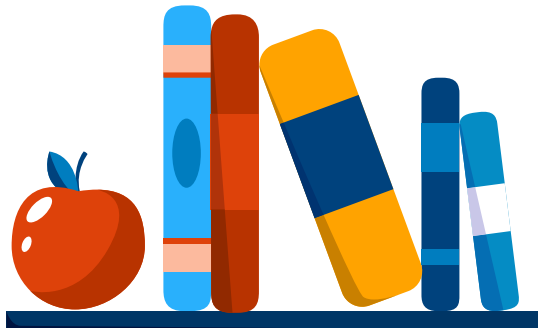
1 registration period per day

1 break time per day

1 lunch break per day

6 periods (lessons) per day

Lessons last 50 minutes each



A Typical Day *

Register - 08:40am

Period 1
Period 2

Break time

Period 3
Period 4

Lunch session
Period 5

Period 6

After school clubs commence. Most clubs finish at 4:30pm. Sporting fixtures finish times can vary.

*Subject to change in line with DfE guidance



Your Curriculum

Here is a list of the subjects that you study and the number of lessons that you will have per week.

English - 5 lessons per week

Maths - 5 lessons per week

Science - 5 lessons per week

RE - 3 lessons per week

PE - 2 lessons per week

History - 2 lessons per week

Geography - 2 lessons per week

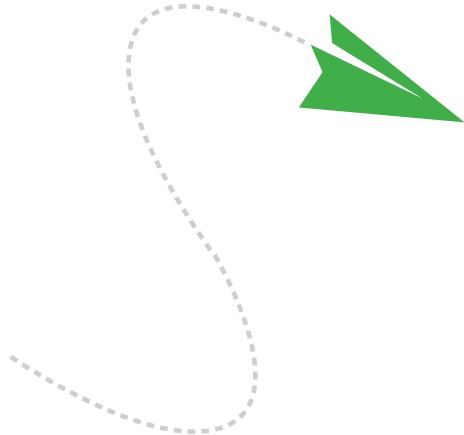
Spanish - 2 lessons per week

Music - 1 lesson per week

Drama - 1 lesson per week

Art - 1 lesson per week

Technology - 1 lesson per week



Which three subjects are you most looking forward to studying in Year 7?

1:

2:

3:

Extra-curricular Opportunities

One of the best ways to become an outstanding member of the school community and to make the most out of school is to join an activity or club outside of lesson time. Participation is a great way to structure 'free' time, meet like-minded people and help you achieve your personal best.

At our Freshers Fair last September, Year 7 students had the chance to join the following activities. More activities are added during the year. This is a taster of what you could get involved with:

Science club	Rock/Pop Band
Debate club	Netball club
History club	Hockey club
Art club	Football club
Choir	Rugby club
Scrabble club	Dance club
Ukelele/Guitar club	Singing lessons
Chaplaincy leaders	Guitar lessons
Joseph chorus	Piano lessons
Computer Science Award	String lessons
Animal Care	Flute lessons
Italian Club	Clarinet lessons
Drum lessons	Saxophone lessons

Which three activities would you like to take part in during Year 7?

1:

2:

3:



Learning Tool Kit

Organisation is a really important skill. Each day, you need to remember the following essentials:

- A good sized and hard wearing school bag. You will need to carry this round all day, so re-pack it each night! We do not have lockers on site
- Full school uniform
- Student Learning Diary
- Pencil case
- Blue and black writing pens
- Two pencils
- Ruler
- Rubber and pencil sharpener
- Reading book
- Highlighter

You will also need the following at some point. They should be packed in your bag the night before school.

- PE Kit and separate PE bag
- Basic Maths set
- Scientific calculator
- Spanish dictionary



Getting to School

The most common ways for students to get to school are:

- Walk
- Cycle
- Bus
- Dropped off in a car

If you are using a school bus, you will need to apply for an IGO card from Transport for Greater Manchester. They qualify you for a cheaper bus pass and look like this:



School begins at 8:45am. Think about your journey to school and make a rough plan below:

What time will you set your alarm for?	
What will you eat for breakfast?	
Will you travel with a sibling or friend? If so, who?	
What time will you leave the house?	
If you are catching a bus, where is the bus stop?	
If you are catching a bust, what is the bus number?	
If you are walking, cycling or getting dropped off in the car, how long will the journey take?	
If you are walking, cycling or getting dropped off in the car, what time will you need to leave the house?	

Your School Uniform

Getting your secondary school uniform is one of the most exciting things about moving into Year 7.

We are proud of the excellent standards that our students set with uniform. Our uniform looks like this:



Some key things about appearance:

- Shoes must be plain black formal school shoes. No trainers, leisure pumps or heels. If they have a Nike tick on or Adidas stripes, they are not allowed. If you are in doubt, send an email or give us a call.
- All outdoor coats must be plain black. No hooded jumpers can be worn as an outdoor coat.
- Only the school scarf can be worn as a scarf in cold weather.
- No jewellery or piercings may be worn by any student, nor can they be covered up by a plaster.
- A wrist watch can be worn but this excludes iWatches.
- No nail varnish, false nails, false tan or make-up may be worn in school by any student
- No extreme haircuts, (including 'V' cuts, lines or shaved styles below a number 3) are allowed. Hair must be one natural colour

If you are in doubt, send an email or give us a call.

Our Expectations

Let's start with a couple of headlines:

- Mobile phones and headphones are not allowed to be used in school at any time. Anyone using a mobile phone or headphones at any time during the school day will have it/them confiscated.
- Energy drinks, fizzy drinks, chewing gum and large amounts of sweets and crisps are not permitted at any time in school. Students with these items will have them confiscated and they will not be returned.

We expect Respect, Understanding, Affection and Humour to be demonstrated in your attitude to learning within classroom settings, through your character and in and around the school community. Therefore, you will be expected to meet our high expectations.

Classroom RUAH	Character RUAH	Community RUAH
1. Arrive within 5 minutes of the bell sounding, settle to silence and focus on task	1. Be prepared by bringing all equipment for learning	1. Attend school every day and arrive for 8:45
2. Listen to the teacher and follow their instructions. Listen to other students too	2. Have the highest standard of uniform and appearance	2. Travel safely to and from school
3. Work without disrupting learning or distracting others	3. Use manners, be polite and be kind to everybody	3. Mobile phone switched off and in bag
4. Participate willingly in learning activities	4. Take part in extra-curricular opportunities	4. Take care of the environment
5. Respond to teacher feedback positively and pro-actively	5. Celebrate the religious beliefs, diversity and unique individuality of others	5. Act safely and responsibly - especially no prohibited items
6. Complete classwork and homework to best standard	6. Take care of and encourage others	6. Be a TSC role model in the wider community

Year 6 Welcome Guide Tasks



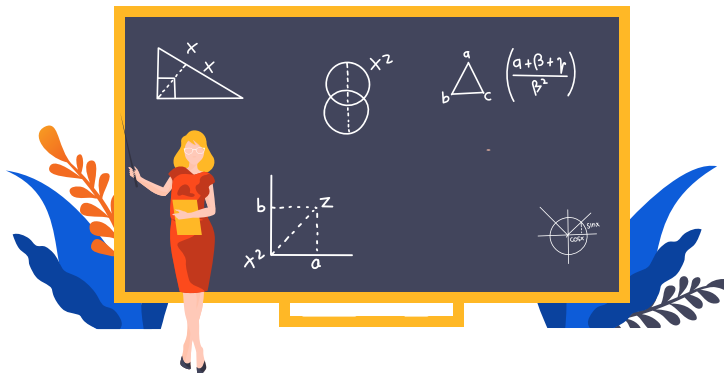
The spirit of our school

1. Where does the word Salesian derive from?
 - a Francis Di Sales
 - b Francis De Sales
 - c Frank Da Sales
2. Don. Bosco founded the Salesians in Italy. What was Don Bosco's name?
 - a St John Bosco
 - b St James Bosco
 - c St Jim Bosco
3. What did Don Bosco dedicate his life to?
 - a Punishment of young people, especially those who were poor.
 - b Service of young people, especially those who were poor.
 - c Service of young people, especially only those who were Catholic.
4. What did Don Bosco want young people to do?
 - a The extraordinary things ordinarily well
 - b The ordinary things ordinarily
 - c The ordinary things extraordinarily well
5. Which of these things make up Don Bosco's oratory model?
 - a Home
 - b Holiday
 - c School
 - d Fine dining
 - e Church
 - f Making money
 - g Playground
6. How many Salesian secondary schools are there in the UK?
 - a 1
 - b 3
 - c 4
 - d 6
 - e 7
7. On what is celebrated on January 31st each year?
 - a The marriage of Don Bosco on our feast day
 - b The life of Don Bosco on our feast day
 - c The birth of Don Bosco on our feast day
8. What Salesian principles define students attitude to learning in our school?
 - a Respect, Understanding, Affection, Humour
 - b Respect, Understanding, Energy, Humour
 - c Respect, Understanding, Affection, Honesty

Lead Staff in Year 7

Match the staff up to their role in school

Mr Tye	Headteacher
Mr Kirk	Year Leader
Mrs O'Grady	Deputy Headteacher
Mr Fitzsimons	Assistant Headteacher
Mrs O'Callaghan	Deputy Headteacher
Mr Bingley	Assistant Year Leader
Mr Smith	SENCO



Year 7 in Numbers

Put the numbers in the correct spaces below:

10

1

280

6

1

10

50

1

1250

.....students in school

.....students in Year 7

.....form groups

.....form teachers

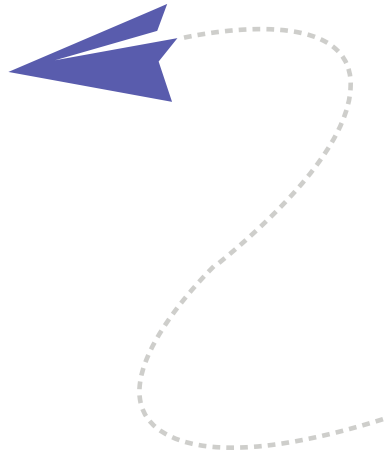
.....registration period per day

.....break time per day

.....lunch break per day

.....periods (lessons) per day

Lessons last.....minutes each



Can you name all 10 form groups?

A	B	G	D	Z
K	T	S	L	O

A Typical Day

Which schedule for a typical day is correct?

Schedule 1

- Register - 08:40am
- Period 1
- Period 2
- Period 3
- Break time
- Period 4
- Period 5
- Lunch session
- Period 6
- After school clubs commence. Most clubs finish at 4pm. Sporting fixtures finish times can vary.

Schedule 2

- Register - 08:40am
- Period 1
- Period 2
- Break time
- Period 3
- Period 4
- Period 5
- Lunch session
- Period 6
- After school clubs commence. Most clubs finish at 4:15pm. Sporting fixtures finish times can vary.

Schedule 3

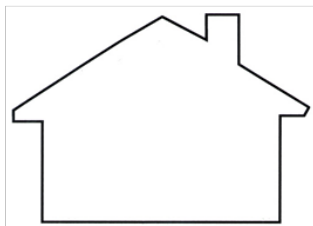
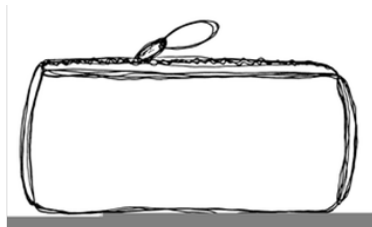
- Register - 08:40am
- Period 1
- Period 2
- Break time
- Period 3
- Period 4
- Lunch session
- Period 5
- Period 6
- After school clubs commence. Most clubs finish at 4:30pm. Sporting fixtures finish times can vary.

Learning Tool Kit

Pack a bag

From the list of things below, which are going to go in your school bag, which are going to go in a separate bag, which are going to go in your pencil case and which are you going to leave at home?

- Water
- Headphones
- Student Learning Diary
- Pencil case
- Energy drink
- Blue and black writing pens
- Two pencils
- Chewing gum
- Ruler
- Rubber and pencil sharpener
- Reading book
- Highlighter
- PE Kit
- Basic Maths set
- Scientific calculator
- Spanish dictionary



Your School Uniform

True or false?	True	False
Boys school shirts are white and girls school shirts are blue		
Your shirt must be tucked in at all times		
Girls tights can be black		
Girls white socks must be pulled up to the knee		
You can wear Nike trainers as long as they are plain black		
On cold days you can wear a black hooded jumper		
Outdoor coats must be plain black		
The only scarf that you can wear is the school scarf		
You can wear a small stud in your ear or cover a piercing with a plaster		
You can wear an iWatch		
Only brown nail varnish can be worn		
You can wear foundation but no other make-up		
Hair can only be shaved to a number 3		
My hair can be coloured as long as it is smart		

Our Expectations

Place the following expectations into classroom RUAH, character RUAH or community RUAH:

Our Expectations	Classroom RUAH?	Character RUAH?	Community RUAH?
Travel safely to and from school			
Arrive within 5 minutes of the bell sounding, settle to silence and focus on task			
Take care of the environment			
Listen to the teacher and follow their instructions. Listen to other students too			
Have the highest standard of uniform and appearance			
Be a TSC role model in the wider community			
Respond to teacher feedback positively and pro-actively			
Attend school every day and arrive for 8:45			
Take care of and encourage others			
Take part in extra-curricular opportunities			
Participate willingly in learning activities			
Act safely and responsibly - especially no prohibited items			
Complete classwork and homework to best standard			
Use manners, be polite and be kind to everybody			
Mobile phone switched off and in bag			
Work without disrupting learning or distracting others			
Celebrate the religious beliefs, diversity and unique individuality of others			
Be prepared by bringing all equipment for learning			

A Letter from a Current Year 7

Dear Year 6,

My name is Sadie and I am writing to tell you about a day in the life of a Year 7 student at Thornleigh Salesian College.

I wake up at 6:45am and check on my hamster Twiggy but he is usually asleep. Next, I go downstairs to get my breakfast which is muesli because it is a healthy way to start the day. Once I have finished my muesli, I brush my teeth then get ready in my uniform which is a shirt, tie, jumper, blazer, skirt, and tights. After, I check my bag to make sure that I have got all the right books, I put it next to the door, so I don't forget it when I leave. I have 5 minutes on my phone to check messages and the 'Show My Homework' App but then I turn my phone off completely and put it in a safe place in my bag. As I live reasonably close to Thornleigh, my sister and I set off to walk to school at 8:20am which is enough time to get there and have 10 to 15 minutes of chatting with my friends. I also make sure that I use the toilet if I need to, as the next time I can go is break time!

At 8:45am the school day starts. Sometimes we go straight to our form room and on Friday's we have an assembly in our Chapel - each form group takes it in turns to lead it. In form time, we share a reflection, read a book in silence or do some Maths problems. When it is 9:05am, the bell goes, and I have approximately 5 minutes to get to my class.

I am now going to tell you what my Thursday's look like.

Period one, I have Art. Each period lasts 50 minutes. My class and I line up outside of the classroom until the teacher arrives. Once the teacher has let us in, we all get our diary, book (if we have it), and pencil case which should consist of a pen/ biro, pencil, ruler, calculator, rubber, highlighters and coloured pencils. In Art, each term we study a different topic, and at the end of the term we have to create a project.

Period two on this Thursday is form tutorial. Tutorial takes place with my form tutor and we study various things: learning about poverty, or about the body, or future jobs. Tutorial happens on a cycle every week during periods 1-4 meaning that I never miss the same lesson all of the time.

After period two, it is break time which lasts 15 minutes. I take drumming lessons, and, like tutorial, it is in different periods. My drumming lesson usually finishes 5 to 10 minutes after break has finished. At break, you can go to the canteen to get a snack such as a waffle, sausage barm, a drink or fruit. In my opinion, the waffles are really nice, but they sell out quickly! The vending machine next to the gym is open at break but closes when break stops as well. You also have a chance to use the toilet as you are not supposed to leave lessons to use it.

Period three on a Thursday for me is Science. Like period one and two, I have to get my diary and pencil case out. In Science, we sometimes do fun experiments, for example, dissecting a chicken leg or using the distillation method.

Period four is Maths. At the beginning of each Maths lesson, we do something called #SOLA. This involves 5 questions that we have to answer and each week we try to improve on our previous score. In Maths, we also do a weekly Low Stakes Quiz which are quite fun.

Lunch starts at 12:45pm. There is usually quite a big queue for the canteen (especially Friday, when chips, pasties, sausage rolls and beans are on sale!) as there are lots of people at Thornleigh, but it doesn't take long before you get to the front as Senior Teachers control the queue. When you are inside the canteen there are three queues. One of them is for pasta, one is for wraps, and the other is for daily choices. They all sell the same drinks, fruit pots, cakes and biscuits. If you go upstairs in the canteen, there are cold meals, such as, sandwiches, wraps and pasta salad. You pay by using your thumb print which links to a digital account. You top up your account online each week, and when you put your thumb on a little reader to buy something, the money is deducted from your account. If you forget to top your account up online, there are machines in the canteen that you can put money into. During lunch time on a Thursday, I go to dance club where we learn dances for fun or for the dance show that happens every year. Lunch is 45 minutes long.

Period five is my favourite on a Thursday because it is PE. We get changed as quickly as we can (this is quite hard at first and takes lots of organisation!) and then we start learning in the gym, sports hall, yard, or astro-turf. This year, we have studied dance, hockey, rounders, netball, football and fitness training. There are loads of school sport clubs, activities and competitions that you could get yourself involved in.

Period six is the last period of the day. In period six, I have English. I like English because we learn lots of new stuff. For example, recently, we have been learning about the story 'Treasure Island' by Robert Louis Stevenson. To understand it even more, some of us went to watch a live performance at the theatre.

After school, I have choir. The choir sometimes sing at assemblies and services. You can get solos and I think it is a very good way of becoming more confident. At Christmas time, choir goes to the Manchester markets. We are in groups and we can go round to different stalls, have some dinner, and then perform at the Hidden Gem - singing 2 or 3 songs. I am also part of the Thornleigh rock band which is great fun!

After choir, I walk home. I usually have some homework to do. This is set on Show My Homework which makes it a bit easier to stay organised (especially as my parents can see it). When I have completed all of my work, I pack my bag ready for the next day and ask my parents to sign my diary or anything that needs to be signed. I have my tea then I go upstairs to play with my hamster. I have a few hours to relax and watch something on the TV. I have a shower and put my uniform out for the next day. At 9:30 I go to sleep.

I have really enjoyed my first year at Thornleigh - even if it is going to finish in an unusual way. It is a great school that offers many opportunities. The teachers are really helpful and it is easy to soon make new friends from other primary schools, so please don't worry. I hope my letter has helped give you a taster of life at Secondary school - you'll love it.

See you soon!

Sadie, 7 Omega.



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