



**HEADTEACHER**  
Mr G Pendlebury  
**DEPUTY HEADTEACHER**  
Mr N Maguire

7<sup>th</sup> January 2026

Dear year 7 parents and carers

### **A very Happy New Year to you all**

Please see below a reminder of some key information for year 7 students.

#### **Contact us**

<https://gms.bucks.sch.uk/contact/>

A reminder that your child's form tutor is the first port of call for contact. You can also email myself, the Director of Learning, or our Student Support officer Mrs Spencer. If required, we will direct your query to a relevant member of staff.

[ftuddenham@gms.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:ftuddenham@gms.bucks.sch.uk)

[jspencer@gms.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:jspencer@gms.bucks.sch.uk)

If you have any queries relating to SEND, please do contact the SEN department.

[senco@gms.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:senco@gms.bucks.sch.uk)

#### **Curriculum and learning ladders**

A broad Key Stage 3 curriculum has been designed to engage, stretch and challenge students of all abilities, as they gain a deeper understanding of all the secondary school subjects on offer. GMS runs a two-week timetable of 50 one-hour teaching periods over the two weeks. The very broad curriculum offered at Key Stage 3 consists of English, mathematics and science: 40% of the teaching time is spent in these core subjects. In addition, all students also study geography, history, computing, religious education, music, art, drama, design technology, citizenship (which includes personal, social and health education). Finally, all students entering in Year 7 learn one modern foreign language, either French or Spanish.

There are nine form groups, which are placed in three mixed-ability Houses: Eagles, Hawks and Kites. Lessons are taught in their mixed ability form groups for the majority of their lessons. The exempt lessons are English, Maths and Science, where the students may be set by ability in each subject within their House.

<https://gms.bucks.sch.uk/learning/curriculum-structure/>

If you would like a more in depth understanding of the curriculum in an individual subject, please see our learning ladders. You are welcome to contact individual teachers at any time.

<https://gms.bucks.sch.uk/learning/departments-a-z/>

#### **Progress reports**

Please see link to the progress review guide on our school website

<https://gms.bucks.sch.uk/parents-carers/progress-review-guides/>

## **Uniform**

A reminder of our uniform expectations particularly now the weather is colder. The GMS school blazer is mandatory. We do offer students the option of wearing a plain black v-neck jumper under their blazer should they wish to.

<https://gms.bucks.sch.uk/our-school/school-uniform-equipment/>

## **Equipment**

A reminder of the equipment students should bring to school every day: planner, a pencil case including the following items: black or blue pen, green pen, highlighter, ruler, pencil, sharpener, Maths equipment (calculator, protractor, compass), glue stick, eraser, scissors, whiteboard marker, colouring pencils.

I hope that this is helpful.

Miss F Tuddenham

**Director of Learning Year 7 & KS3  
Associate Assistant Headteacher**