

# Transition Bulletin

## Message from Mrs Girling

**Dear our newest member of Saxmundham,**

We are very excited that you will be starting at SET Saxmundham School in September and hope you are too. I have been connected with Saxmundham for many years mostly as a mum and this year as Head of School and I know you have made a great choice.

We are incredibly proud of our supportive culture and our School is moving in a really positive direction, with lots of exciting opportunities for you during your time with us. We have planned a variety of sessions that will help you build your confidence about leaving your primary school and coming to your new secondary school - SET Saxmundham School. I know you will have questions, my team and I would be delighted to be able to answer those questions for you – remember no question is not worth asking.

This year has been difficult but I know the future looks bright for all of us especially at Saxmundham. My team and I are planning to make sure the things our learners love doing, such as enrichment, will be the very best it can be when you start in September.

We are looking forward to getting to know you through our sessions we are really interested in:

- What you love doing in school and at home?
- What do you like reading?
- Who are your friends?
- What pets do you have?
- What do you fancy doing for a job at the moment?

Please read and enjoy your first family Bulletin which has important information about what happens next.

**Mrs Girling (Head of School)**



Mrs Girling  
Head of School

## First Challenge

Over the next few months, we will be setting a series of fun challenges for you to complete. These offer an opportunity to show off your skills and individuality by introducing yourself in a creative way!

- Your first challenge allows you to be as creative and as imaginative as you want. The task is to teach us a little about you. We want to learn two or three things about you and you can do this in any way you wish.

Some examples are; a picture, painting, slide show, video, song, sculpture, dance or news report. If you do not do this on a computer, you can take a picture or video. When we are back at School, please bring it and we will display these in School.

Please email your challenge to [spower@seckfordeducation.org.uk](mailto:spower@seckfordeducation.org.uk) by Monday 7 June 2021.

## Key Members of Staff

Here are some of the staff you will hear about, meet and get to know over the coming months.

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### Mr Barrow – Executive Headteacher & CEO

**Favourite book:** Theory of Justice by John Rawls

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### Mrs Girling – Head of School

**Role in the school:** I love being Head of School and look forward to every day in school. The best part of my job is listening to our learners so that I can make the school better for you - it is my passion.

I love reading, being a mum, taking my dog for a walk and listening to the birds. My favourite book is Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austen. The best book I have read this year (so far) is One by Sarah Crossan.

See you in the library....



### Mrs Power – Assistant Head / Safeguarding Lead and Head of Key Stage 3

**Role in the school:** Responsible for Years 7, 8 and 9

I will be organising all the transition events, with the year 7 team.

Being a PE teacher, I love all sports and watching students develop their skills in a sport they have never done. It is an exciting opportunity to meet new people when you join a new school, and an opportunity to try something different in enrichment.

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### Mr Connell-Smith – Assistant Head of School and Head of Key Stage 4

**Role in the school:** Responsible for Years 10 and 11

I enjoy leading Duke of Edinburgh in the school and supporting students to face new challenges, whether that is with science experiences or map reading on the Derbyshire hills.



### Mrs Sheehan – Assistant Head SENDCO

**Role in school:** I am responsible for supporting all of our students to achieve the very best outcome, particularly with any students who have a special educational need or other obstacles. I will be overseeing the new specialist centre.

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### Jade Messenger - Year 7 form tutor and teacher of Art

**Role in the school:** I believe my role as a Year 7 tutor is to support each student to succeed in school, through each student's progression both academically and socially. I will encourage my form to commitment to learning and enjoy every opportunity. I will guide the class to achieve to the best of their abilities.

I will demonstrate to student how to achieve their personal targets. I have always pushed myself to reach my own personal target, for example when I done the highest skydive in the UK or paraglided across the sea. I show each student how to celebrate the large and small successes in life.

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### Lucienne Griffiths - Year 7 tutor and teacher of English and German

**Role in the school:** I'm an English and German teacher here at SET Saxmundham so I am surrounded by language all day! I see my role as getting students to find link between languages as well as between the words and the feelings they create. As your form tutor, however, my role is to be your first port of call for support and your champion. I will relay messages and check in with you every day and make sure you get the best opportunities we can provide for you - but I will also ensure you are respectful, ready and safe for your school day.

**Interesting fact:** I'm a big Harry Potter fan (A Ravenclaw!)”



### Lynn Gilardi - Assistant SENDCO

**Role in the school:** Assistant SENDCO and Dyslexia specialist and I will be supporting with your transition into year 7.

**Advice to new students:** work hard, play hard and you will do well. I look forward to welcoming you to the SET Saxmundham School.

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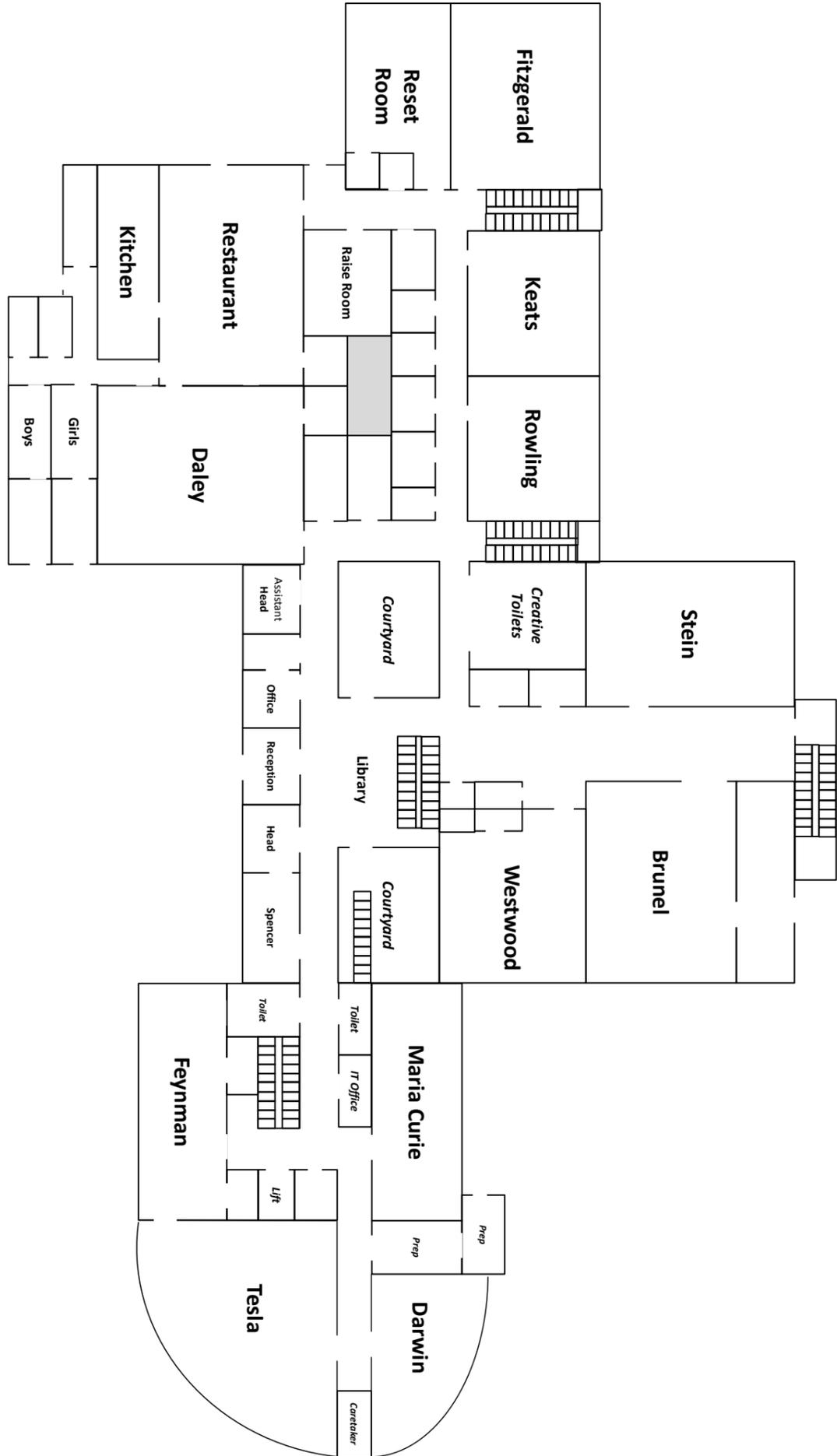
### Laura Bevan - Student Support Team & Pastoral and ADSL for Year 7

**Role in the school:** I am responsible for looking after and supporting you on a daily basis alongside your tutors. I am someone that you can come to speak to should you have any questions or concerns, and work within the student support team. I am really looking forward to meeting and getting to know you all.

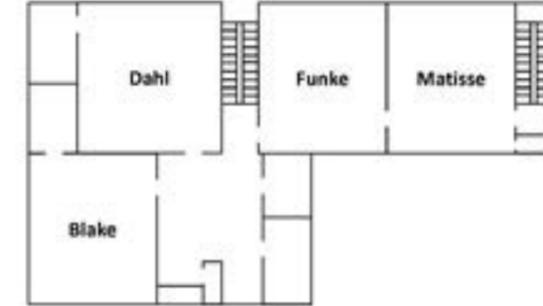


# Site Map

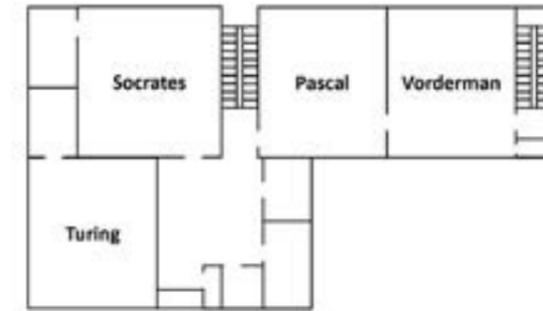
Please do not worry about finding your way around the School; we put lots of support and help in place over the first few weeks! But if it helps, you can take a look at this site map:



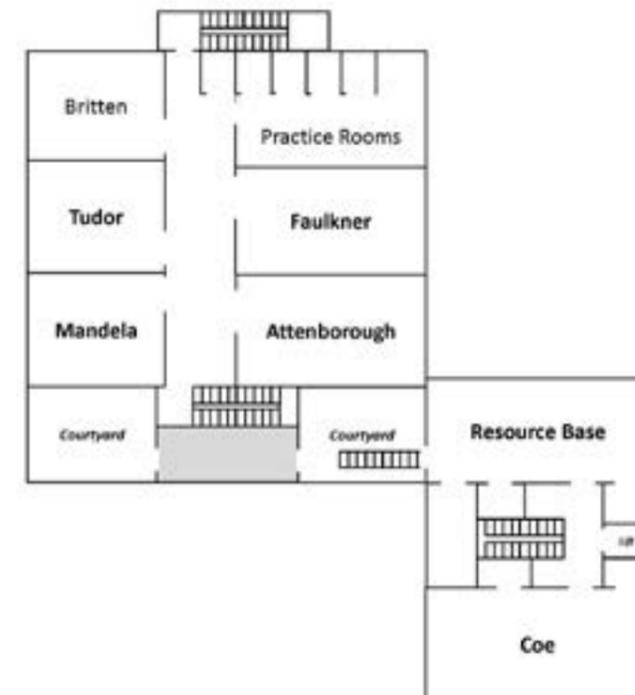
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1<sup>st</sup> Floor



Original Block  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor



Creative Block  
1<sup>st</sup> Floor



## Frequently Asked Questions

Please do not worry about finding your way around the School; we put lots of support and help in place over the first few weeks! But if it helps, you can take a look at this site map:

- 1. Will I meet my tutor?**  
Yes we will be doing a virtual event via Zoom in June where you will meet the senior leadership team and your tutor.
- 2. Will I get to meet anyone in my year before I start?**  
Yes! We will have two transition days at our school at the end of June. This will be when you will meet the other people in your year group as well as some of your teachers.
- 3. What is a form tutor?**  
A tutor is a member of staff whose job it is to take care of their tutor group. You will be in a tutor group with around 24 students and you will have a Year 7 form tutor to make sure you are ready to succeed at School. They are the person your parent contacts if they need any information or help.
- 4. How long is the School day?**  
The School day begins at 8.30am but most people arrive around 8.00am to get some breakfast; the day ends at 3.55pm.
- 5. What will my first day be like at SET Saxmundham School?**  
On your first day, you will be met as you arrive and will immediately be in the care of teachers and our older students. They will make sure you get some breakfast and know where you are going. Following on from that, you will go to your tutor's classroom to get to know them, find out any information you need and to get your timetable. After a few hours, your lessons will start and your secondary School experience begins.
- 6. How will I find my way around School?**  
For the first few days of School, you will be shown around the School by some older students who have the job of making sure you know where to go! It's quite easy to learn your way around once you've been here a couple of days.
- 7. Will I need my PE kit on the first day?**  
Yes. You will receive your timetable on the first day and our PE staff like to start teaching you straight away so please make sure you have your PE kit with you. Once you have your timetable, you will just need to bring it on the days you have PE.
- 8. Will I get a locker?**  
Yes, you will get a locker come September. This will be big enough to store your coat, bag and PE kit.
- 19. Am I allowed my mobile phone?**  
We understand that students will have their phones with them but they are to be switched off and remain in your bag throughout the School day. They may only be used before and after School but never on the school site.
- 10. Will I get a lot of homework?**  
You will get weekly homework in English, Maths, Science and MFL (languages).
- 11. Are there extra-curricular clubs?**  
Over the first few weeks of secondary School, you will be told about our extra-curricular opportunities and how to sign up to these. Some examples are: DT workshop, Music lessons, Sports clubs.
- 12. When and what can I eat?**  
You can get food and drink three times throughout the School day:  
Before School: Breakfast (jam sandwich or fruit)  
Break: Breakfast (jam sandwich or fruit)  
Lunch: A rotating menu of hot food including options for anyone with dietary requirements as well as sandwiches.



## Looking Ahead

- **Virtual “meet the tutor” event on 16th June at 5.30pm. Information for this will be sent out a few days before the event.**
- **Our Year 7 team will visit your primary school in the near future.**
- **More fun challenges.**
- **Transition days on 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> June.**
- **End of summer BBQ on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> August.**

**Please remember to return your data forms to our school reception.**



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