

SWAKELEYS

FAQS

WELCOME

Welcome to *Swakeleys School For Girls*. You have chosen to attend an **OUTSTANDING** school.

We are excited that you will be joining us and hope that we can answer some of your questions about transition.

What is a Form?

You will register in your Form each day and will be with them for some lessons, but not all. Your Form tutor is the teacher who will support you day to day.

Will I get lost?

The rooms have a logical system of numbers and you will get a map. We have lots of fun on the first day doing a treasure trail around the school to help you find where things are. Teachers and older students are on hand to help you find rooms if needed.

What is it like being in a school with just girls?

The advantage is that behaviour in lessons is very focused and there are less distractions. Girls are able to use their voice and are more confident in class. Behaviour is excellent and there is a very purposeful learning environment.

What clubs and activities can I join?

There are so many extra-curricular activities at Swakeleys. Why not join one of our many sports teams? We are brilliant at Sport! Our netball and athletics teams have been county champions. Take music lessons? Join the choir? Take part in the school production? Become a librarian? Be a part of school council? Be a peer mentor? Use your voice in debating? Whatever you enjoy Swakeleys will have a club or activity to suit you. We want you to contribute to school life in every possible way.

CLUBS

GOLDEN RULES

What are the rules?

We have 3 simple golden rules:

Do as you are told, when you are told, at the first time of asking.

Listen in silence while others speak.

Keep hands and hurtful comments to yourself.

We expect all pupils to follow **ABC**
Achieve, Behave, Contribute

ABC

Will I make Friends?

We know you will be anxious about friendships. When you first start there will be a range of activities just for year 7 to help you meet the other students in your form and in year 7. Your Form tutor will help you get to know each other.

What happens if I am absent or late?

At Swakeleys we know that attendance and punctuality are vital to success. We do not allow family holidays in term time. If you are late for school or lessons you will get a detention so you must leave the house in good time and plan your journey. Every student should be aiming to be in school every day.

Do I get rewards for good attendance?

Yes!

If the whole form gets 100% attendance you will get a non-uniform Friday just for your form.

We have a termly draw for three large attendance prizes-these have included vouchers, tablets and headphones in the past.

Every day you attend will result in a donation to our charity pot by the school-we contribute this to a charity chosen by students.

What is the house system?

Each form is allocated to a house at school and has a house colour. We compete in lots of house competitions including Sports Day and house talent. Each year a house wins the house competition. This is a really big part of school life. Our houses are named after inspirational women. The houses are:

JA-Jane Austen

AF-Anne Frank

RP-Rosa Parks

EB-Elizabeth Blackwell

MC-Marie Curie

FN-Florence Nightingale

MY-Malala Yousafzai

DS-Diana Spencer

CONTRIBUTE

What is school council?

School council is a huge part of Swakeleys life. We encourage all pupils to hold a position of responsibility during their school career as either a form councillor, a senator representing the year group, or on a committee.

We have four full school council meetings each year and nominated forms attend to hear the reports from various committees and take part in a topical debate. We are a nationally recognised school council and it really is a wonderful part of the school, giving all pupils a voice.

What is the uniform?

We have a set skirt and trouser style that must be bought from our uniform supplier, along with the grey blazer and school jumper. We are very strict about this. Our shirt is green. You are only allowed a small pair of plain earrings. We only allow certain hair bands and the rules on jewellery are strict. You can wear a watch but not a smart watch. We ask you to wear specific black leather shoes-no trainers. No nail varnish or make up. Please do check all the uniform information carefully as we issue detentions for the wrong uniform. Please also check the PE kit requirements especially trainers which must be a certain type. You must buy uniform from our official supplier W and S Sports.

SWAB

SUPPORT

What happens if I feel bullied?

Many pupils experience falling out with friends at some point in their school career. These disagreements are not always bullying but your form tutor can help and support you. We also have learning mentors and counsellors for those who need a staff member to talk to regularly. SWAB (Swakeleys Against Bullying) is a peer mentor group that can also offer support.

In the instance that you do feel persistently harassed or upset by the same person (bullying) you must tell an adult. We are a "telling" school and if you let us know we can deal with the issue through sanctions and support.

MISS ALLAN



WELCOME YEAR 7

Who leads the year group?

Miss Allan is the Year Learning Co-Ordinator for Year 7.

She is in charge of learning and behaviour for Year 7 pupils and will be a key member of staff for you to get to know.