



Y7

Induction Guide

2026/27

Welcome to the Silverdale Team

A very warm welcome to all of our new Year 7 students and their families.

We are delighted that you will be joining the Silverdale community in September and we are already looking forward to getting to know each and every one of you. Starting secondary school is a significant milestone in a young person's life. It is an exciting time filled with new opportunities, new friendships, new experiences and, understandably, a few nerves too. At Silverdale, we are committed to making this transition as smooth and positive as possible.

Our Induction Evening is designed to help students and parents learn more about the exciting journey ahead. It is an opportunity to find out what life at Silverdale is all about, meet key members of staff, understand what to expect from secondary education, and begin building the confidence needed for a successful start in September.

This information booklet has been produced to support you throughout the transition process. It contains all the important information you will need, including details of transition events, key contacts, term dates, important dates for your diary, and guidance on areas such as uniform, equipment and preparing for your first day at Silverdale. We hope you find it a useful resource and encourage you to refer to it regularly over the coming months.

We understand that moving from primary school to secondary school is a big step. That is why we place such importance on supporting students and their families throughout the transition process. From our transition events and induction activities to the support provided by tutors, teachers and pastoral staff, we want every student to feel welcomed, valued and ready to thrive from their very first day.

At the heart of life at Silverdale are our three core values: **Ambition, Belonging and Integrity**.

Ambition encourages our students to aim high, work hard and believe in what they can achieve. We want every student to develop the knowledge, skills and confidence to be successful both in school and beyond.

Belonging is about being part of something special. We are proud of the strong sense of community at Silverdale, where students are supported, celebrated and encouraged to contribute positively to school life. We want every student to feel that they belong and that Silverdale is a place where they can be themselves and flourish.

Integrity means doing the right thing, even when no one is watching. We encourage our students to show honesty, respect and responsibility in everything they do, helping them to become thoughtful and principled young people.

These values are not just words on a wall; they are woven into daily life at Silverdale and shape the culture of our school. They guide how we learn, how we treat one another and how we work together as a community.

We are incredibly excited about welcoming you into the Silverdale family and cannot wait to see you begin your journey with us. We hope you enjoy the Induction Evening and leave feeling excited about the opportunities that await.

September will be here before we know it, and we look forward to welcoming you as the newest members of Team Silverdale.

Best wishes

A handwritten signature in white ink that reads "Mr Smith". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly informal style.

Headteacher

Mission, Vision, and Values

Our Mission

Working together to empower everyone to thrive and succeed.

Our Vision

The Chorus community is cared for and supported to be the best they can be.

Our Values



Silverdale is proud to be part of Chorus Education Trust. As a family of schools, we are united by a shared mission, vision and values, working together to provide the very best education and opportunities for all young people. Being part of Chorus enables us to collaborate, share expertise and learn from one another, while maintaining the unique identity and strong community spirit that makes Silverdale such a special place to learn and grow.

Key People

Below are the key members of staff who will be supporting your child throughout their transition to Silverdale. They will work closely with students, parents and primary schools to ensure every child feels welcomed, supported and confident as they begin their secondary school journey. If you have any questions or concerns during the transition process, these colleagues will be happy to help and guide you every step of the way.



Mr Smith
Headteacher



Mr Horton
Deputy Headteacher
Designated Safeguarding Lead



Miss Clemens
Head of Year 7



Mrs Tate
Year 7 Pastoral Manager



Mrs Pawlak
Safeguarding & Inclusion Manager
Designated Safeguarding Deputy



Mrs Thompson
Emotional Wellbeing Officer
Designated Safeguarding Deputy



Mrs Brocklesby
SENCO

Who to contact

I have a question about transition while my child is in Y6.	Y7 Pastoral Team: Miss Clemens and Mrs Tate	y7admissions@silverdale.chorustrust.org
I would like to speak to my child's form tutor.	Your child's form tutor	Form tutor email addresses will be shared in September.
I would like to speak to the Y7 team when my child has started in September.	Y7 Pastoral Team: Miss Clemens and Mrs Tate	y7pastoralmanager@silverdale.chorustrust.org
I am concerned about the safety or wellbeing of a child (from September).	Safeguarding and Inclusion Manager: Mrs Pawlak	tpawlak@chorustrust.org
I would like to discuss my child's SEN needs and support.	SENCO: Mrs Brocklesby SEND Administrative Assistant: Mr Strutt	senco@silverdale.chorustrust.org
I would like to report my child's absence from school or request term time leave.	Education Welfare and Attendance Officer: Dr Austin	Reporting illness (by 9am): 0114 236 9991 absence@silverdale.chorustrust.org
I would like to speak to someone about my child's medical condition.	Student Receptionist: Mrs Jones	AJones@chorustrust.org

Key Dates

Y7 Dates for your Diary

Y7 Transition Days

Wednesday 24th and Thursday 25th June 2026 9am-3pm

Y7 First Day

Thursday 3rd September 2026 8.55am-3.15pm (students may arrive from 8.30am, and must be in school by 8.55am)

Y7 Settling in and Information Evening

Tuesday 7th October 2026

Y6 Transition Events 2026

Transition Days

Wednesday 24th and Thursday 25th June 2026

- All students will enter via the student entrance and will be escorted to behind the Main Hall where they will meet their form and form tutor. Students will assemble under the letter representing their form in alphabetical order (S,I,L,V,E,R,D,A).
- Students will take part in timetabled lessons and transition activities throughout the two days.
- Students need to bring a packed lunch. They will not be able to use the main dining room or have food purchased for them by older students. If your child is currently in receipt of Free School Meals, please ensure you have filled in the form that has been emailed to you.
- If students are meeting older siblings to travel home, they will need to wait in the Restaurant until 3.15pm.
- Students must arrive ready for learning, including a pencil case, packed lunch and water bottle.
- No uniform- students need to be in comfortable clothing and footwear suitable for PE.
- Please ensure all items are labeled with your child’s full name.

Structure of Transition Days

9-9.10am	Students arrive at Silverdale and gather behind the Main Hall
9.15-11am	Assembly, Lesson 1 and Lesson 2
11-11.15am	Breaktime (students are able to have a snack from home)
11.15-12pm	Y7 Transition Activities
12-1.10pm	Lunchtime and games (students to eat a packed lunch from home)
1-1.15-3pm	Lesson 3 and 4
3pm	Home time (students waiting for older siblings to wait in the Restaurant until 3.15pm)

Summer’s Cool 2026

Silverdale’s Summer’s Cool (Summer school) will run for two separate camps. Students should try and attend for one of the two camps to take part in a variety of fun activities and make new friends:

- Camp 1: Wednesday 19th – Friday 21st August 9am-3pm OR
- Camp 2: Monday 24th- Wednesday 26th August 9am-3pm

An Arbor account activation email has been sent to you. Please use this to access the Summers Cool registration and pay the £62.50 charge. If your child is currently in receipt of Free School Meals, Summers Cool is available at the subsidised cost of £10 via Arbor.

The deadline for registering your child for Summer’s Cool is Wednesday 1st July 2026, please note there are a limited number of places available on each camp. Confirmation of your child’s place, and arrangements for Summer’s Cool, will be shared in due course.

Your Child's First Day at Silverdale School

Y7 First Day: Thursday 3rd September (Years 8-11's first day is Friday 4th September 2026)

- All Year 7 students should arrive before 8.55am and meet their forms at the rear of the Main Hall and line up under their form sign. Students can arrive at school from 8.30am.
- The day will begin with a welcome assembly, followed by time in form groups where timetables, planners, and dinner cards will be given to students.
- Students will start their lessons in the afternoon.
- Students must come to school dressed in Silverdale School uniform and equipped for learning (uniform, bag, equipment, lunch or money). Please ensure all uniform and equipment is labeled with your child's name.
- Students will be able to use the Restaurant to purchase food if they wish or can bring a packed lunch.

Supporting Your Child with Y7 Transition

The transition to secondary school is undoubtedly one of the most significant changes in a child's academic journey. At Silverdale we offer a comprehensive transition programme to help this process, however the support of parents and carers in preparing a child for the move to secondary school is vital. Here are some top tips to support the move and develop your child's independence skills.

Encourage Independence

Students will face many changes at secondary school. They will need to bring their stationery and planner to each lesson, keep track of their belongings, have a different uniform and perhaps order their own lunch.

Tips:

- Try to get your child to have a go making their own breakfast, or ordering their food at a restaurant.
- Ensure your child is packing their own bag for school. It is often helpful to do this the night before to ensure your child has an easier morning routine.
- Practice your child setting their own alarms for the morning and practicing their morning routine.

Explore Surroundings

Try to familiarise your child with the walk or bus journey to school, and the surrounding area. Notice key landmarks with your child to help them feel settled on their journey to and from school.

Tips:

- Talk to your child about their getting to school, and home time arrangements, early. Will they be walking, on the bus or being picked up?
- Practice the walk or bus route several times so that they can become familiar with the route.
- You could support your child to practice the route to school for the Transition Days, or Summer School.

Embrace Change

Moving to secondary school is an exciting period of change, but for some children and parents this can make them feel worried or anxious. The more we talk about the changes that the children are to expect than the less daunting they seem. Encourage your child to become excited about all of the incredible new things they'll be able to try, and the amazing people they will meet!

Tips:

- Have a sit-down conversation with your child. Talk about how they will move around the school and have lots of different teachers.
- Talk to your child about how their form will consist of lots of students that they do not know. This is an exciting opportunity to meet new people and make new friends, as well as keeping friendships from primary school. All Year 7 students can spend time together at break and lunch.
- Explain that there may be some challenges along the way, but that your child's form tutor, and the Year 7 team are here to help. Remind them that they can speak to their form tutor, or come to the Year 7 office, at break or lunchtime if they are worried about anything.

The Silverdale Culture Code

Our Shared Commitment to Ambition, Belong & Integrity

At Silverdale, culture matters.

The way we learn, teach, speak, behave and support one another creates the conditions for success in every classroom, every lesson, every day.

The Silverdale Culture Code sets out the shared commitments that help all students feel safe, supported and ready to learn, while ensuring high-quality teaching and consistent routines across the school.

Staff Commitments

- **Meet & Greet** – Staff meet their students at the door
- **Pencil Case & Planners on Desk** – Staff ask student to get their equipment out
- **Clear Start of lesson routines** – Staff complete the register and have a ready starter on the board for student to complete
- **Hands up for silence** – Staff hold their hands up for silence
- **High Expectations for everything** – Staff use the reward and behaviour systems and promote students engaging positively with learning
- **End and Send** – Students are asked to stand behind their desks in silence before they leave the room.

Student Commitments

- **Ready from the start** – Students are in lessons with all their required equipment, pencil case and planner on their desk
- **Start Strong, stay focused** – Students begin the ready starter straight away every lesson and keep focused on their work
- **First time, every time** – Students respond promptly and follow instructions first time
- **Hands up for silence** – Students watch for the teacher's hand up and then is silent
- **Respectful behaviour** – Students speak politely, listen to others, and treat everyone with kindness
- **Engage positively with Learning** – Students work calmly, contribute and support others to learn.

Every Lesson. Every Day. Everyone.

The Silverdale Culture Code is built on consistency, respect and a shared belief that all students can succeed. Together, we create a culture where everyone can thrive.



Expectations on Uniform

Silverdale expects students to meet the expectations listed below:

- A school polo shirt must be worn.
- One of the three bottom layers of uniform must be worn appropriately.
- Necklines and clothing that completely covers all underwear, no underwear showing.
- Appropriate footwear must be worn for health and safety reasons.
- No see-through or ripped uniform items.
- No additional trousers, tracksuit bottoms or shorts are to be worn underneath the uniform.
- If an item is deemed to jeopardise health and safety, we will ask for it to be removed.

Please ensure that students wear uniform clothing suitable to the current climate and weather conditions. For seasonal uniform items where required, please see our Uniform Policy.

Uniform Tops

All students **must** wear a black polo shirt with the school logo. This is a core part of our uniform. Students can wear an additional plain black long-sleeved layer underneath this.

For additional warmth, students should add a layer from the following essential items:

1. Black sweatshirt with school logo
2. Black cardigan with school logo.
3. Black uniform hoodie with school logo

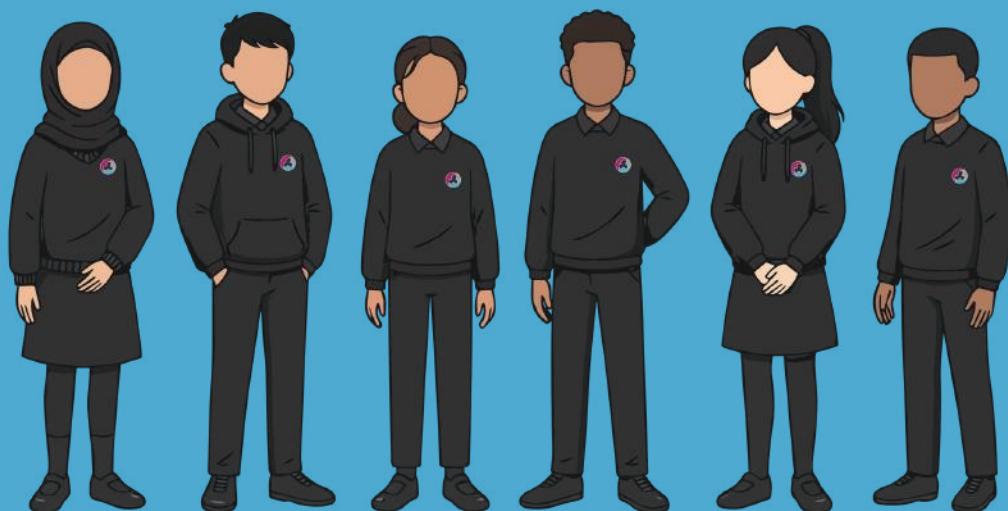
The top layer must be an item of uniform with the Silverdale logo.

Uniform Bottoms

- All students must wear one of the three options for the lower half of the body.
- Black full-length trousers (must have a fly-zip and pockets; no denim, jeggings, jeans or cargo style).
- Black tailored shorts (professional in appearance, not sports shorts)
- Black skirt. Skirts should be plain black. They can be straight, A-line or pleated. Lycra or tight-fitting skirts are not permitted. When standing with arms straight by your side, the hem of the skirt must come past your fingertips.

Other items

- Tights must be plain, black and not patterned, with no holes.
- Outdoor coats can be any style or colour but should offer protection from adverse weather conditions, i.e. – be water-resistant. Non uniform Hoodies are not allowed.
- A school bag that must be able to fit an A4 folder inside it.
- Plain religious headdress if applicable. No other headwear is allowed inside the building. Hats must be removed upon entry.
- Watches – students can wear a basic wristwatch. Smartwatches are not allowed.
- Piercing – Basic studs may be worn.
- Necklaces – necklaces must be out of sight. **Note – If jewellery is deemed to jeopardise health and safety, we will ask for it to be removed.**
- Flat, plain, black shoes or trainers with no white or coloured logos, soles or markings. Students must wear suitable shoes which offer reasonable protection when participating in practical lessons.



PE Kit & Equipment

Clothing:

- Black Silverdale PE T-Shirt (essential)
- Black Silverdale shorts (optional) or plain black shorts
- Black tracksuit bottoms or leggings (can be worn as an alternative to shorts, but must be plain black)
- Black and white Silverdale long-sleeved PE shirt (optional)
- Thermal base layer (optional) – to be worn under a PE T-shirt, preferably black, but can be any colour
- Black or burgundy Silverdale Sport hoodie (optional)
- White or black socks of any length

Footwear:

- Sports training shoes / AstroTurf trainers
- Rugby / Football boots for lessons on the field (optional – but advised)

No items of school uniform are to be worn as part of your PE kit. This includes: school jumper, hoodie; school shoes; coat.

Mouth guards and shin pads:

We strongly encourage parents to purchase and reinforce the importance of wearing a mouth guard with their child, when taking part in curriculum hockey or rugby PE lessons.

Students taking part in extracurricular hockey or rugby fixtures and tournaments will be expected to have and wear a mouth guard in order to participate.

Shin pads are also strongly recommended for playing rugby and hockey.



Information about our uniform and PE Kit can be found on our website:
<https://www.silverdale.chorustrust.org/uniform>

Equipment List



Students are expected to come to school with the correct equipment for learning. Every student must bring to school every day:

- School bag (large enough to fit an A4 folder)
- Black or Blue pen
- pencil
- ruler
- pencil case
- green pen
- spare pen
- eraser
- scientific calculator
- glue stick
- Highlighter
- Water Bottle

School Day

At Silverdale we have a two-week timetable, alternating between Week A and Week B.

Student arrival	8.30 - 8.55am
Form Time or Assembly	9.00 - 9.15am
Period 1	9.15 - 10.15am
Period 2	10.15 - 11.15am
Break	11.15 - 11.30am
Period 3	11.35 - 12.35pm
Lunch	12.35 - 1.10pm
Period 4	1.15 - 2.15pm
Period 5	2.15 - 3.15pm
End of School Day	3.15pm
Period 6 (used for A-Level lessons, detentions and clubs)	3.15 - 4.15pm

SEPTEMBER 2026						
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DECEMBER 2026						
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Silverdale is a Phone Free School

Year 7 students joining us in September 2026 will not be allowed to bring smartphones, smartwatches or headphones to school, they are 'prohibited items'. A smartphone is a phone that allows users to access the internet and download apps.

Students may bring a 'non-smart' or 'feature-free' phone in their bag so that they can contact you, or friends, on their journey to and from school.

Students must ensure their 'non-smart' or 'feature-free' phone is turned off and placed in their bag for the school day. A student's phone will be confiscated if it is seen, or heard, during the school day. Parents will be contacted and may be asked to come and collect their child's phone. It could be kept until this collection takes place.

If you need to contact your child urgently during the school day, you will be able to call the school reception who will pass on the message. If your child has a medical or specific learning need that requires the use of a smartphone, then please contact the Y7 team.

Why we are a PHONE - FREE SCHOOL at Silverdale

Boost Attention & Learning



Stay Sharp!

Without distractions your brain can focus better on classroom learning and achieve your potential.

Keeping Everyone Safe



A Safer School

Minimises the risk of cyberbullying, online grooming and pressure, creating a safe and supporting environment.

Improving Mental Health & Wellbeing



Feel Better

Reduce anxiety levels, feel happier, and enjoy more meaningful face-to-face social connections with friends

Encourage Better Sleep & Physical Health



Be Healthier

Disconnecting leads to better sleep, improved concentration, and more time for physical and outdoor activities.

Communication at Silverdale

We aim to provide high quality, frequent and responsive communication to our learning community (pupils, parents/carers, staff and partners) and to the wider population who have an interest in Silverdale School.

Our communication will be written in plain English and if we must use jargon, we will explain what is meant by it. We will also use a range of media to make our messages more engaging and interactive.

We strive to make it easy for parents/carers to communicate with us, and there are several platforms in place for this.

Silverdale’s communication commitment

- Keep staff, students, parents and other stakeholders well informed
- Be open, honest, ethical and professional
- Use jargon-free English and be easily understood by all
- Be conducted in a timely manner
- Use the method of communication most effective and appropriate to the context, method and audience

Arbor

- This is the main system that we use to communicate with parents/carers. Emails will be sent through Arbor.
- Through the parent portal, you can: view student timetables, student attendance, student calendar, student commendations and behaviour, pay for trips and upload lunch money.
- An email explaining how to sign up has been sent to you. Please ensure that you check your child’s profile to ensure their information and contact information is up to date. **Please note Arbor only automatically logs the details of the parent/carer who applied for your child’s school place.**

Types of Communication

Types of communication								
	 Website	 Text message	 Email	 Arbor	 Social media	 Spotlight	 Local radio/ press	 Post
Emergency information (e.g. School closure notification)								
News stories/press releases								
Event notification (e.g. Parents' Evenings/Awards events)								
Student achievements								
Progress information								
Important reminders								

Catering Services

Students will be able to purchase food, drinks and snacks from our catering partner, Taylor-Shaw, using our cashless catering system. Parents/carers can top up a child’s account using Arbor. Students can also bring a small amount of cash to school to use the top up machines. If your child is in receipt of Free School Meals, the daily amount for a main meal is added to their account each day. Parents/carers can see what their child has purchased each day using the Arbor system. Please visit our website for menus and prices (please note that menus and prices are subject to change in September).

- Breakfast is available 8.30-8.55am, selling a selection breakfast foods including bagels, toast, crumpets, fruit pots and drinks.
- At break time students can purchase hot and cold snacks, fresh fruit and drinks.
- At lunchtime students can purchase range of hot meals, jacket potatoes, pasta pots, sandwiches and paninis, and cold drinks.
- All food, including snacks and packed lunches, are eaten in our Restaurant and Dining Room.

Getting to School

To keep the local area safe and respect local residents:

- Please do not park on Bents Drive, which is the main road outside school.
- You can drop and turn round in the Hammer and Pincers car park at the top of Bents Drive.
- You can park safely on Bents Road and then students walk through the pathway to Bents Drive.
- Or of course walk, cycle or use public transport

Please use the following link to our website to help plan your journey to Silverdale::
<https://www.silverdale.chorustrust.org/travel>

Attendance

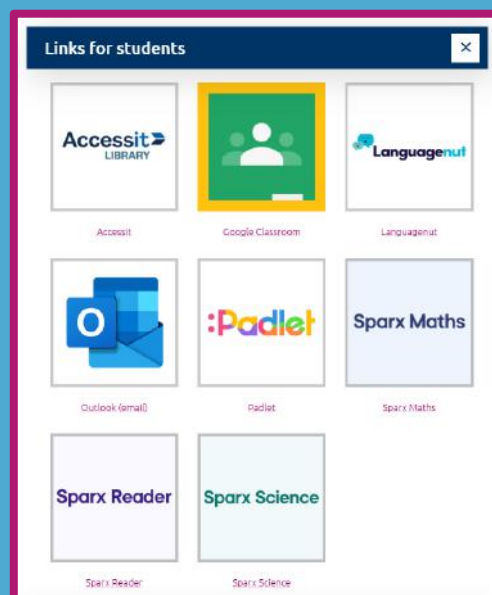
- Silverdale School supports Sheffield City Council’s policy regarding holidays during term time.
- Silverdale School will not authorise holidays during term time, except for ‘exceptional circumstances’, which need approval by the Headteacher.
- If attendance becomes a ‘cause for concern’ we will request medical evidence in order to authorise absences.
- All absences need to be reported to the school. Please report illness via telephone on the day of absence by 9am using [0114 236 9991](tel:01142369991)
- Full details at:
www.silverdale.chorustrust.org/attendance



Homework

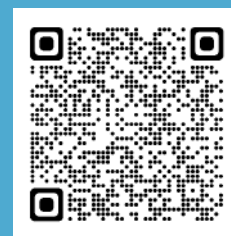
- Silverdale uses Google Classroom to share homework tasks with students.
- Sparx is used for online weekly science, maths and English homework. Language Nut is used for online weekly French homework.
- All other subjects will set additional homework in line with their department policy.
- Students will be shown how to use Google Classroom, Sparx and Language Nut in September.
- Silverdale offers a Homework Club in our library after school Monday-Thursday 3.15-4.15pm.

All online homework platforms can be accessed using the remote log in page on the Silverdale website.



Instrumental Lessons

At Silverdale you can apply for your child to have instrumental, vocal or DJ lessons in school time. Instruments available include drums, strings, woodwind, brass and guitar. Lessons are paid directly to peripatetic staff, not to Silverdale School. Register your child's interest using the link or QR code.



Scan me

Extra Curricular

At Silverdale, we are incredibly proud of our extensive extra-curricular programme, which provides students with a wide range of opportunities to develop new skills, pursue their interests and build lasting friendships. With activities taking place before school, at lunchtime and after school, there is something for everyone, whether students are interested in sport, the arts, music, academic enrichment, leadership or volunteering.

We believe that learning extends beyond the classroom, and our extra-curricular offer plays a vital role in helping students flourish, develop confidence and feel a strong sense of belonging within our school community. Our students regularly tell us how much they value these opportunities and the positive impact they have on their school experience. An up-to-date timetable of all clubs and activities can be found on our website: <https://www.silverdale.chorustrust.org/extracurricular>