



NEWSTEAD WOOD SCHOOL

"creating opportunities for success"

THE SUNDAY TIMES

SCHOOLS GUIDE
2025

STATE SECONDARY
SCHOOL OF THE YEAR
LONDON

29 August 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

Year 7 First Day of School – Monday 1 September 2025

We are delighted to welcome your child to Newstead Wood School as they begin their journey with us in Year 7. We are looking forward to an exciting and enriching year ahead.

Details for the first day on Monday 1 September are as follows:

- **Arrival Time:** 8.25am
- **Drop-off Location:** We encourage students to travel independently to school using public transport. If you are driving to the school, please **park a little distance from the school, for the safety of students and to avoid congestion.** Please **do not** drive into Avebury Road and park with consideration for neighbours and road users in another nearby road. Parents are kindly asked to leave students at the **school gates.**
- **Meeting Point:** Students will proceed directly to the **netball court** upon arrival.
- **Uniform:** Students should wear their **full school uniform.**
- **Food:** Students may bring a packed lunch, alternatively lunch and snacks can be purchased from the canteen using **cash, card, or WisePay** (if set up by then). Further information about WisePay will be shared in due course – we are currently in the process of setting this up for Year 7.

What to Expect on the Day

During the day, students will:

- Meet their **form tutors, Head of Year, and subject teachers**
- Attend **normal lessons for part of the day** (there will be no PE lessons on this day so students do not need to bring their PE kits)
- Familiarise themselves with the **school's ICT facilities**

The school day will end at **3.35pm**, and parents may collect their children from outside the **school gates.**

Headteacher: Mr Alan Blount, MA, BSc, QTS

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Newstead Wood School
Avebury Road
Orpington
Kent

t: 01689 853626

e: office@newsteadwood.co.uk

w: newsteadwood.co.uk



Mobile Phones

At Newstead Wood School we understand the importance of young people growing up with strong digital literacy and technology skills, and we work across the curriculum to develop this knowledge. Our policy on mobile phones can be found [here](#) and I would like to remind you that mobile phones should not be seen or heard at Newstead Wood School during the school day. If a phone is seen or heard in school, the phone will be confiscated, and parents notified.

We appreciate that some students will already have a smartphone, but I would like to reassure parents that students do not *need* a smartphone at Newstead Wood School. All our apps, homework platforms and online work can be accessed from a laptop. Students who need to contact home during their journey to or from school can do so from a non-smartphone model without access to the internet. During the school day, Reception will contact home if your daughter is unwell or needs to contact you. Students should not contact home of their own accord during the school day.

Evidence strongly recommends that where children do have access to a smartphone or other device that parents do not allow their child to use the device in their room unsupervised and should impose a curfew and firm boundaries over the use of their phone. We would advise parents and carers to ensure that the appropriate parental controls are set up on all devices used by children to ensure that they are protected from harmful material. This isn't about banning tech or going backwards. As a school we believe in the value of using technology for learning – in fact, we provide every student with opportunities to use digital tools in the classroom every day and support them in their journey through the digital world.

For more information about Year 7 transition and school procedures, please visit our website: [Year 7 Transition | School Life | Newstead Wood School](#)

We are excited to welcome your child to our school community and look forward to supporting them as they settle into life at Newstead Wood School.

Yours sincerely,



Ms P Bongout
Assistant Headteacher, Key Stage 3 Lead