



FALMOUTH
SCHOOL



YEAR 7 WELCOME PACK

2025


Ofsted
Good
Provider

Welcome to Falmouth School!

Falmouth School is a bright, welcoming and inclusive school at the heart of the Falmouth community. We are committed to providing an exceptional experience for all our students to the highest possible standards. Our school is dedicated to fostering a love of learning and an enthusiasm for knowledge. Our focus is to create a dynamic and supportive environment where students can thrive academically and holistically.

Our dedicated staff put our students at the heart of everything they do. Our ambition is clear: we strive for the success of every student, from Year 7 to Year 13, within our school and beyond. We emphasise holistic development, support of students in their academic pursuits while nurturing a sense of belonging to both their local community and the broader world.

At Falmouth School, we embrace ambition, kindness and responsibility as integral to the quality of education we provide. We want students to relish their learning opportunities. Learning, in our view, should be an exciting and rewarding process leading to new discoveries, increased motivation and resilience, all fuelled by a desire to achieve more.



We also want everyone to showcase British Values, fostering a collective responsibility and the highest standards towards others within and beyond our learning community. As a student of Falmouth School we will help you grow in confidence.

In the not so distant future, when you are in your 20s and 30s incidentally just passing by the school, we want you to be able to recall the fondest of memories.

The Roseland Multi Academy Trust

We are proud to be part of a group of schools across Cornwall that includes The Roseland Academy, Treviglas Academy, Tregony Community Primary School and Gerrans School.

Our Mission – The Roseland Multi Academy Trust provides outstanding education for our communities where everyone succeeds.

Our Vision – To inspire a love of learning within environments that are happy, respectful and challenging, where everyone feels valued and able to reach their full potential.

Our Values – Kindness-Responsibility-Ambition



Communication

It is important that we all feel connected and informed.

The Form Tutor

In most instances, your child's form tutor is your first contact. They are called "tutors" because they take a keen interest in each of their form's education and well-being. The form tutor will know your child well and will be able to advise you on their social and academic progress.

Ms Thirlby: lthirlby@falmouthschool.net

Mr Sharpe: msharpe@falmouthschool.net

Ms. Brannigan: ebrannigan@falmouthschool.net

Ms. Rice: hrice@falmouthschool.net

Mr. Baldwin: jbaldwin@falmouthschool.net

Mr. Kearse: gkearse@falmouthschool.net

Learning Leader & Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DDSL)

Mr Stringer is the Learning Leader for Years 7 and 8 and can be contacted if you have any enquiries about learning, progress, social issues or factors affecting performance at school. Mr. Stringer can be contacted at dstringer@falmouthschool.net.

Mr. Stringer is supported by Mrs. Holland who is our DDSL for Year 7 and 8. Her email is rholland@falmouthschool.net. Mr. Stringer and Mrs. Holland will work with our Compass Team and SENCo if needs be.



What will be different from primary school?

Various Classrooms

Our Year 7 students sometimes feel worried about finding their way around the school site and we can assure you that all of our students are well supported in finding their way around. To support you:

- You will be moving around the school with your tutor group or teaching group for the first few days before the bell goes, so the corridors will not be busy with students from other year groups. Prefects will be on hand to help you too.
- You will be given a map of the school which you may find useful.
- Every classroom is numbered.
- Anyone is available to ask and will be happy to help!

First Day

Year 7s first day of school will be Tuesday 2 September and students should be on-site by 0825 ready for their meet and greet on the lower courts. Students should be wearing the correct school uniform. No PE kit will be needed on the first day of term. Members of Falmouth School staff will be available to help navigate students to where they need to be.

Daily Routine

The start and finish times of the day are 0830-1500 and during the day we have five 60-minute lessons.



The curriculum also allows us to introduce PSHE lessons where students have more time to consider and learn about their own wider personal development and the moral, social, cultural and health topics that help make them into well-rounded young adults. We expect all students to arrive promptly and maintain punctuality each day.

Tutor Group and Lessons

Every student is placed in a tutor group and we work closely with your primary school when deciding on groups. We will make sure that you are with at least one of your friends, and your tutor will be there to support you. If you are the only student coming from your primary school, please do not worry; moving to secondary school is a great opportunity to meet new friends and your form tutor will help you to do this.



You will start your day with Morning Greeting on the courts in your tutor groups, so your Learning Leader and tutor will greet you every morning. You will then go to your tutor room to undertake tutor activities. Your form tutor is a great person to talk to if you have a problem, feel frustrated or something is bothering you. You will be given your own timetable when you start here in September.

Timings of the School Day

All students should aim to arrive on site by 0825.

0830 - 0900: Morning Greeting and Tutor time

0900 - 1000: Lesson 1

1000 - 1100: Lesson 2

1100 - 1125: Break

1125 - 1225: Lesson 3

1225 - 1325: Lesson 4

1325 - 1400: Lunch

1400 - 1500: Lesson 5

Trescobeas Toast

Our school gates open early at 08:10 each morning and students are welcome to head straight to the Green Room for Trescobeas Toast. This is a friendly and relaxed start to the day, where free toast is served to help set you up for learning. It's a great opportunity to connect with friends, chat with staff and prefects, and ease into the school day in a calm and supportive environment.



Independent Learning & Social Time



Independent learning at Falmouth School is set through the student portal and resources can be accessed through Google Classroom. When you start with us, you will be given a log-in and shown how to use Google Classroom and set up your student portal. Independent learning will be gradually introduced during the first half term as students settle into life here at Falmouth School.

How much time will I need to spend on independent learning tasks each evening?

To support learners in Years 7-9, we suggest allocating between 30-60 minutes per evening for home learning, whilst for Years 10-11 we suggest between 60-120 minutes. This additional time helps prepare them for the increased rigours of their GCSEs and ensures they meet academic expectations while maintaining a healthy balance.

Reading

Reading remains very important at secondary school. Books are available to borrow from our great library at school. We have a wide selection, including dyslexia friendly books.

What do I do if I find an independent learning task difficult?

Firstly, have a go – spend 30 minutes trying your best and then contact your teacher via Google Classroom or when next in school for support.

We also have a homework club in C21 which runs every lunchtime where a member of staff can support you with your homework.

Social Times

During break and lunch time, you will be able to see and spend time with your friends, purchase food from the school canteen, eat your packed lunch and socialise. We operate zoned areas and toilets. However, students can mingle with any year group in the main canteen area.

Food and e-Safety

What food is available?

Fresh and healthy meals are served up daily in the school canteen and menus are revised regularly. We have many items available to cater for all diets. There is a selection of hot and cold food available. If you have any dietary requirements or allergies, please ensure that this is outlined when you set up a cashless catering account. Students are also welcome to bring in their own packed lunches. Students are able to purchase food at both break and lunch during the school day. Please note that we are a nut-free school.

How do I pay for school meals and snacks?

Falmouth School runs a cashless catering system. Information about how to set this up will be sent to parents and carers. Students with biometric consent will be able to use their thumbprints to purchase food from their account. Please do not worry if you forget any details, as you will be able to say your name to the canteen staff when paying for food instead.

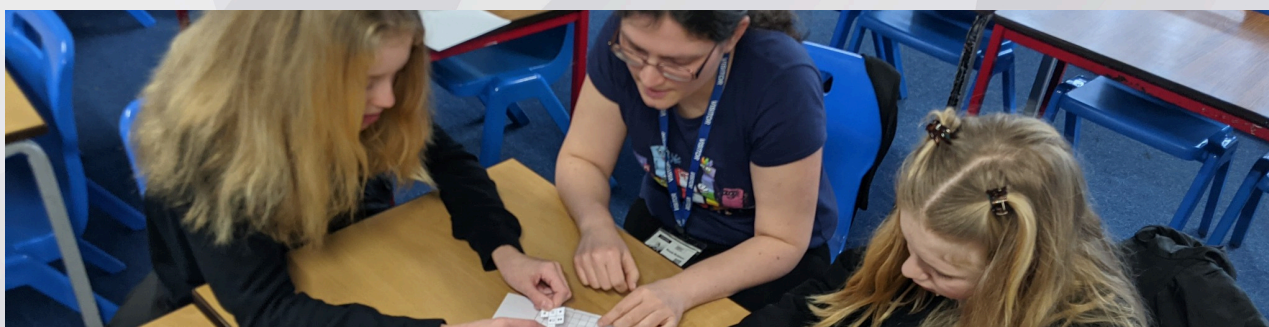
MCAS (MyChildAtSchool)

At Falmouth School, lunch payments are made through the MyChildAtSchool (MCAS) app. This easy-to-use system allows parents and carers to top up your lunch account securely online. You'll use your fingerprint or PIN at the tills to pay, so there's no need to carry cash. If you ever need help getting set up on MCAS, our admin team is happy to support on reception@falmouthschool.net.

MCAS isn't just for lunch payments — it's also a central hub for staying informed and involved in school life. Parents and carers can use the app to pay for school trips, view attendance records, check homework, and receive important notifications from school. It's a simple and convenient way to stay connected and support your child's journey at Falmouth School.

e-Safety

Each student will be provided with their own unique Falmouth log-in when they join. It is important that you do not share your password with other students and follow the school's internet guidance at all times.



Uniform



At Falmouth School, we take pride in our uniform and encourage all students to maintain high standards of appearance, both in school and when representing the school in the community. Our uniform and PE kit can be purchased from Castle Sports, a trusted local supplier we've worked with for many years. They are always happy to support families in sourcing the right items.

While branded items, such as the blazer and PE kit should be purchased from Castle Sports, there is no requirement for branded trousers or skirts — these can be bought from a retailer of your choice. We just ask that they follow our uniform guidance, which you can find in full on our website.

PE Kit

Physical Education is an important and enjoyable part of school life at Falmouth School. Students take part in a wide range of sports and activities across the year, so having the right kit helps them to feel comfortable and ready to take part.

All students are expected to wear the full falmouth school PE kit, which includes a PE shirt, PE shorts and either black leggings or tracksuit bottoms. The Falmouth School 1/4 Zip PE top is optional but strongly recommended, as many lessons take place outside, even in colder weather.

Falmouth School Black Sports socks are worn in the winter months, while plain white socks can be worn in the summer months. All students are expected to wear suitable trainers and it is recommended students need studded boots for use on the sports astro/ sports fields.

In response to student voice, we have introduced a more practical approach to PE days: students are allowed to wear their PE kit to school on the days they have PE. This helps maximise lesson time, reduces the need for changing, and ensures students are ready to be active and enjoy their lessons from the start of the day. Students are welcome to bring in a change of PE top if they would like.

Mobile Phones and Equipment

Your timetable will help you know what you need to bring to school each day depending on the subjects you have. Some items, like your pencil case and water bottle, will be needed every day, while others, like food for catering, are only needed on certain days.

Being organised and ready helps you make the most of your day, and we want every student to start with a positive mindset and feel prepared for learning. It really does make a difference. Mobile phones must stay out of sight during the school day and should remain in your school bag at all times. In every classroom, you'll see a poster reminding you of the equipment you're expected to bring each day to help you succeed and enjoy your lessons.

**Students' Standards
for Success
Equipment**

	A school bag. A PE kit.	
	A pencil case. Black or blue pens.	
	A rubber. Two pencils.	
	A ruler. A glue stick.	
	A purple pen. A calculator.	
	A reading book. A water bottle.	



FALMOUTH SCHOOL

OFF AND AWAY *All day*

Either leave your mobile phone at home for the day or ensure it is turned off and in your bag during the school day.



Attendance

For a student to reach their full educational potential, a high level of school attendance is essential. We consistently work towards a goal of 100% attendance for all students. However, we do accept that illness is inevitable occasionally.

We ask that medical appointments are arranged for outside of school hours. Where this is not possible, parents and carers are requested to opt for appointment times either at the start or end of the day so students do not miss a whole day of school. Parents and carers are asked to collect children from school for such appointments as students are not permitted to leave the premises during the day unaccompanied. Evidence of a medical appointment is also gratefully received.

Students should be in school at 0825 in readiness for registration with their tutor group at 0830. If a student is absent, their parent/carer must make the school aware of the reason by 0900 and provide any further information that the school needs. If no message has been received by 0930 the school will phone or text the student's parent/carer for confirmation of absence and reason.



For all absences, the preferred way to report your child's absence is by using the Report Absence option on the ClassCharts App. If you don't have access to ClassCharts, please contact your child's tutor. Alternatively please continue to use the school absence line 01326 372386 (pressing 1 for Attendance).

Exceptional Leave of Absence requests must be made in writing to the Headteacher where they will be considered. We would request that these are emailed to the Head's PA (gohly@falmouthschool.net) a minimum of two weeks' notice, where possible, to allow time to process requests in a timely manner. A link to this form can be found on our website.

School Meals

Falmouth School, in partnership with an external provider, are dedicated to providing nourishing, appetising food for students. There is a wide range of nutritious meals available every day from the school canteen. The menu is compliant with the school food standards and we encourage students to enjoy a healthy balanced diet. Chartwells can cater for many special dietary requirements. Please speak to the Catering Manager at the canteen if you have any questions or contact us through reception@falmouthschool.net.

The canteen works on a rotating menu. The menus are on display in the food hall and on the digital signage around the school. Students can purchase items individually but are also able to purchase a meal deal at a cost of £2.75. This will include a sandwich/jacket potato/salad or pasta pot plus a home-bake item/fruit and a drink. A sample menu can be seen opposite. Cool drinking water is available from many of the fountains around the school for students to top up during the day.

To support the catering provision, we use a biometric fingerprint recognition system. This involves a low resolution fingerprint scan. Current legislation requires written parental consent for the use of a student's biometric data in school.

WEEK 1 MENU			FOOD UNION
	CHOICE One	CHOICE Two	GRAB & GO OPTIONS
MON	Bangers and Mash Served with Peas and Gravy	Plant Based Sausages Served with Mash, Peas and Gravy	WEEKLY SPECIAL Roasted Indian Chickpea Salad Tuna and Sweetcorn Pasta Salad Pasta Potato Salad Ham & Cheese Sandwich Chicken, Lettuce & Mayo Sandwich Cheese Sandwich Ham Baguette Cheese & Tomato Baguette Tuna Crunch Wrap Pepper and Hummous Wrap Panninis Pasta & Sauces Freshly Baked Pizza Love Joe's Mexican Burrito
TUE	Chicken Masala Naan with Crispy Spiced Potatoes and Mint Yoghurt Dressing	Roasted Rainbow Vegetables with Flattened Fingers, Coriander and Hummous	
WED	BBQ Mandarin Pork Served with Vegetable Egg Fried Rice	Sweet Chili Noodles	
THUR	Sriracha Glazed Chicken Burger Served with Chipotle Wedges and Sweetcorn	Plant Ball Marinara Melt Served with Chipotle Wedges and Sweetcorn	
FRI	Fish and Chips or Chicken Goujons Served with Baked Beans and Peas	Vegan Sausage Roll Served with Chips, Baked Beans and Peas	

The data is then stored as an encrypted algorithm in number format: it is a picture of the fingerprint; the data cannot be read by another system, nor is it transferable to any other database. Once an account has been created, the student can access the canteen facilities using their scanned print, as long as their account is in credit.

Average spend per day is £2.75 to £4. A daily spend limit has been set at £6 on all accounts. If you would like this changed please contact the school at reception@falmouthschool.net. Purchases cannot be made if there are no funds on the account.

For students entitled to free school meals, their account will be credited accordingly. Parents/Carers are reminded that it is their responsibility to apply for, or renew, their entitlement through the Local Authority before their child starts at Falmouth School. Parents/Carers wishing to make an application for free school meals should apply to www.cornwall.gov.uk/schoolmeals.

Term Dates

2025-26

Autumn Term:

- Autumn Term: 2nd September-19th December. Early finish on 19th December at 12:30 pm.
- INSET Day: 1st September (School closed to students).
- School opens for Yr7 and Yr 12 ONLY - 2nd September
- School opens for all students - 3rd September
- INSET Day: 24th October
- Half Term Break: 27th October-31st October.

Spring Term:

- Spring Term: 5th January 2026-2nd April.
- Half Term Break: 16th February-20th February.
- INSET Day: 23rd February.

Summer Term:

- Summer Term: 20th April 2026-17th July 2026. Last day of summer term on 17th July. 3pm finish.
- Half Term Break: 25th May-29th May.

2026-2027

Autumn Term:

- Autumn Term: 3rd September-18th December 2026.
- INSET Day: 3rd September - school closed to staff and students (in lieu of 2 twilights)
- INSET Day: 4th September 2026 - school closed to students
- INSET Day: 23rd October 2026
- Half Term Break: 26th - 30th October 2026.

Spring Term:

- Spring Term: 4th January 2027-25th March 2027
- Half Term Break: 15th February-19th February 2027.
- 22nd February 2027 - school closed to students

Summer Term:

- Summer Term: 11th April 2027-23rd July 2027.
- Half Term Break: 31st May-4th June
- INSET Day: 25th June 2027 - school closed to students

FAQ

Q: My child has a medical appointment – how do I inform the school?

If your child has a medical appointment, please provide the school with a copy of the appointment letter in advance. Should you not have an appointment letter, please complete a Leave of Absence form in advance which can be downloaded from our website or collected from the school Reception.

Q: Can my child contact me using their mobile phone?

No. Students' mobile phones should be turned off and in the bottom of their bags during the school day. Should a student need to contact home or a parent needs to get a message to their child, please do this through the school Reception.

Q: What if my child feels unwell at school?

If your child feels unwell, they must inform their teacher (if in lesson) who will then call for First Aid support. If during social times, students should inform the reception team directly. Under no circumstance should a student ask parents and carers to come and collect them if they are feeling unwell, without a member of staff's knowledge.

Q: My child has medication that needs to be taken during the school day. What shall I do?

Should your child need medication during the school day it must be taken to Reception along with a letter giving permission for us to administer the medicine. It will then be stored safely in the first aid room. Should your child have a specific medical need, please ensure we are informed of this in writing along with the name of a medical professional. In some circumstances, some children may need to have medication, such as EpiPen or an Inhaler on their person. If you believe your child may need an individual health care plan (IHCP) please complete the relevant form found [here](#).

Q: What extracurricular activities are available?

We offer a wide range of clubs and activities that take place over the academic year to suit all tastes. This is also a lovely way to interact with students in different year groups and strengthen friendships through different interests. The clubs list will change termly and an activities booklet is produced, that will be shared in all tutor groups and will be available on the school website. We encourage all students to stay at school until 1615 to take part in these clubs or join homework club which runs daily in the library.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact your tutor. a full contact list can be found on our website.



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