

The background image shows three students in a chemistry laboratory. They are wearing dark blue school uniforms and safety goggles. One student is in the foreground, looking down at a piece of equipment. Another student is behind them, also looking down. A third student is on the right, looking towards the others. In the background, there is a Bunsen burner with a blue flame, a conical flask on a stand, and other lab equipment. A semi-transparent blue rectangle is overlaid on the image, containing the text and the school crest.

# Testbourne Community School

## NEW STUDENT WELCOME BOOKLET





# Testbourne Community School

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Achievement • Excellence • Integrity

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# Welcome from the Headteacher

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Dear Students,

I would like to introduce myself as Mr Beck, the Headteacher of Testbourne Community School. I am writing to say how pleased we are that you have been allocated a place at our school for September to begin the next chapter of your school career. I look forward to meeting you in person, hopefully in the summer term, but I wanted to write to you before I meet you so that I can introduce myself and our school.

Starting secondary school is a very exciting time but may also be quite daunting for some of you as you transfer from a relatively small school to a larger one. Please don't worry because we have a fantastic transition programme which will help you get to know the school and answer any questions you may have before you start with us. We also have a wonderful team of prefects who are looking forward to supporting you whilst you settle into Testbourne school life. Additionally, this year's Year 7 cohort will be willing and able to give advice and to tell you how easily they settled in when they were in the same position last year.

If you wish to know more about Testbourne Community School, I would encourage you to look at our website: [www.testbourne.school](http://www.testbourne.school). You'll find a fantastic video prospectus, a virtual school tour, question and answer sessions with key staff, subject information and much more.

I give my sincerest best wishes to you and your families.

- Mr Beck, Headteacher



# Prefect Team Message

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Hello soon-to-be Year 7s, and welcome to Testbourne!  
We are very excited to hear you are joining our school.

We are the Prefect Team and we represent the school and its values, both in and out of school. You will see us with Prefect ties, so please say hello when you spot us around the school. We are very approachable and would like you to feel as comfortable and included as possible from your very first day. Our aim is to grow your love for learning and ensure you enjoy being a part of Testbourne's school community!

We are looking forward to meeting you on your induction day.

Best wishes,

- Prefect team



# Structure of the Day

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The day starts at 08:45 with Tutor. During tutor students will register and take part in weekly quizzes, discussions, literacy and numeracy sessions, and receive any school-wide notices

At the end of break and lunch, there are warning bells to signal transition time. Students are expected to be ready to enter the classroom before the second bell.

Timings	Timetabled
08:45 - 09:10	Register
09:10 - 10:00	Period 1
10:00 - 10:50	Period 2
10:50 - 11:10	Morning break (20 mins)
11:10 - 12:00	Period 3
12:00 - 12:50	Period 4
12:50 - 13:30	Lunch break (40 mins)
13:30 - 14:20	Period 5
14:20 - 15:10	Period 6
15:10	Students depart class
15:25	Departure of school buses

Timetables with lessons and timings will be handed out at the beginning of September.



# Subject Studies at TCS

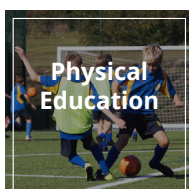
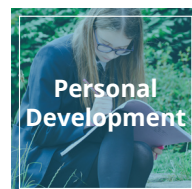
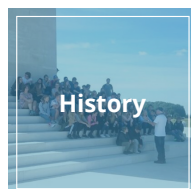
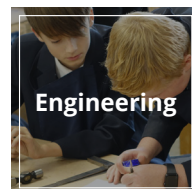
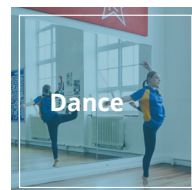
When you join Testbourne in Year 7, you will be placed in tutor groups and teaching groups, which are organised by the language you have chosen to study: French or Spanish. We have over 20 primary schools represented this year, and we sort the tutor groups to have a mixture of students from each.

You will be placed in sets based on information from primary schools for English, Maths and Science. There is mixed ability setting for other subjects. Groupings and settings may change throughout the year but all students follow the same curriculum and are supported to achieve their best.

Students are split into smaller classes for Design technology so that all students can use the specialist equipment safely, and these classes are taught on a rotation so that they all complete the same projects by the end of the year.



**SCAN ME**  
to visit our website





# Equipment

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You will need to bring in your own equipment to school. You can purchase some stationery items from the library. The shop will be open during tutor time.

## Essential items:

- Two writing pens - they must be black or blue
- Pencil and sharpener (or a spare pencil)
- Rubber
- Ruler (with mm and cm) - preferably a 30cm ruler
- Protractor and pair of compasses (used in Maths, Science and Geography)
- A small selection of colouring pencils
- Scientific Calculator - Casio FX-83GTX recommended
- Glue stick
- A pair of scissors (not pointed)
- Highlighter pens
- Mini Whiteboard
- Whiteboard pens
- A reading book
- Black fine liner pen – for DT
- Apron – for Food/DT/Art
- Headphones (with a 3.5mm jack / USB) – for Music

## Desirable but not essential:

- Notepad – a small (A5) notebook for rough work

Mobile phones or other electronic devices must not be visible or used on the school site during the school day. However, we understand that students may need to carry phones to and from school for safety reasons. Students' phones must be switched off and put in their bags before they enter the school site.





# Uniform and PE Kit

## School Uniform

Wearing our school uniform means that students become valued members of our school community and feel a sense of belonging and pride. Both the Testbourne School Blazer, Testbourne House Tie and optional Testbourne Sweatshirt can be purchased from Skoolkit ([www.skoolkit.co.uk](http://www.skoolkit.co.uk)). They also supply trousers, skirts and white shirts.

- Navy blue blazer with school badge
- Plain white shirt with a collar, which can be long or short sleeves (worn with top button done up and shirt tucked in).
- House tie – to be pulled right up to top shirt button, and worn at the correct length
- Plain black/charcoal trousers (these must be straight leg, loose fitting all the way down the leg; No fashion or casual trousers; No logos, rivets or detail are acceptable).
- Navy blue Charleston style school skirt with at least one pleat at front (worn at knee length or within 5cm of the knee).
- Black, grey or white socks or opaque / black tights with no pattern.
- Black leather style school shoes (no boots, sports style shoes, canvas shoes, trainers, high heeled shoes, and no logos or stripes).
- Scarves worn for religious reasons should also be plain, and black or blue.

## PE Kit

Testbourne Polo Shirts are available from Stitch Design ([www.stitchdesign.co.uk](http://www.stitchdesign.co.uk)). They also supply ¼ Zipped Top, shorts, tracksuit bottoms, leggings and socks.

- Royal Blue Polo Shirt with school badge (Collar, 2-button fastening, no pocket)
- Dark Navy Blue ¼ Zipped Top (no large logo or badge, or hood)
- Dark Navy Blue Football Shorts (no large logo or badge)
- Knee Length Royal Blue Socks
- Football Boots (plastic-studs, not blades, dimpled or flat soled)
- Trainers
- Gum Shields for Rugby (available from PE dept)
- Shin Pads for Football

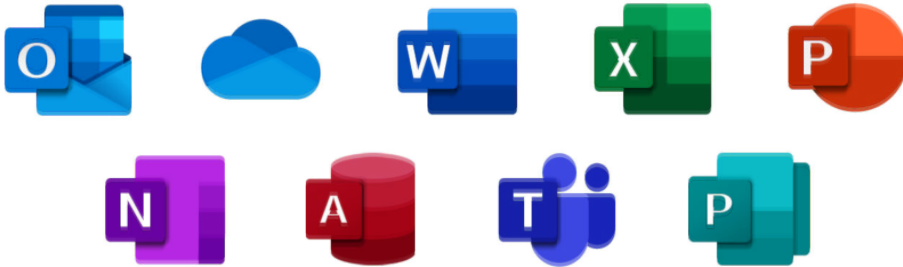
Football boots are required for use on our 3G pitch. These must be plastic-studs, not blades, dimpled or flat soled.

# Homework

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Homework is set using Microsoft 'Teams', which is part of Microsoft Office 365. You can access this using your school email address. It is very easy to use and you can access from PC, tablet/iPad and mobile phones.

For more information, please visit: [www.testbourne.school/home/students/homework/](http://www.testbourne.school/home/students/homework/)



# Lockers

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Lockers provide an opportunity for students to store books, PE kit, lunch and other equipment not immediately needed, rather than carrying these items around the school.

All school lockers at Testbourne are provided and maintained by a company called ILS. Parents and carers can book one of these lockers, choosing an appropriate location around the school. Parents may wish to purchase a school locker near to their child's tutor room, and please note that we ask ILS to hold some lockers to ensure Year 7 students have a choice later in the years. Some lockers become available later in the year, and you can choose to be added to a waiting list if there is no locker available.

The ILS lockers are available to be booked online at: [www.ilsschools.co.uk](http://www.ilsschools.co.uk)



# Laptop Scheme

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We are delighted to introduce to you our new laptop scheme initiative, working in partnership with Easy4U.

At this time the laptops will be for use at home only so normally, should not be brought into school. In some circumstances, e.g., if a child has a specific need which means they routinely use a laptop, they may be able to bring their own device with agreement from the SEND team or another senior member of staff. Please note that it is not compulsory for a child to have a laptop or to bring their own device to school, but a lot of homework and revision materials are set using electronic platforms so access to a laptop is strongly recommended.

The Easy4U laptop scheme aims to empower your child to fully engage in their studies, foster independent learning, and develop essential digital skills. By providing them with their own affordable personal laptop, we aim to bridge the digital divide and ensure that all students have equal access to educational resources at home.

Please visit [go.testbourne.school/laptopscheme](https://go.testbourne.school/laptopscheme) for more information.





# Recognition and House System

Every student who attends Testbourne Community School is a member of a House, as well as our teaching and support staff. Each student will wear a Testbourne tie in their house colour to help indicate which house they belong to. Our four Houses are:



## Testbourne Standards of Excellence

- **Kindness and Respect** - We treat others, ourselves, and our environment with respect. We are kind and caring towards others. We never use prejudicial language or bully or harass people because of the gender, religion, ethnicity, race, sexuality, disability, or other protected characteristics. We value equality.
- **Ambitious Learner** - We can work independently, we are resilient when work is hard, we respond positively to challenge, we are motivated, we seek improvement, we work hard, we are organized having the right equipment and resources to learn.
- **Honesty and Integrity** - We do what is right, even when no-one is looking. We tell the truth, and we admit our mistakes and learn from them.
- **Leadership** - We are positive to members of the school community and to others, we are a good example of the Testbourne Standards of Excellence.

All staff in school recognise students positively and award Recognition Points for displaying the Standards of Excellence (above). There are also opportunities for students to receive specific awards such as "Scientist of the Month" and to be a recipient of "Hot Chocolate Friday".

Achievement is also recognised by our Heads of Year through their weekly assemblies and certificates are awarded to deserving students at the end of every term. Our Headteacher also recognises significant achievements by writing personal letters to congratulate students and inviting them to afternoon tea. At the end of the academic year, we take pride in formally recognising our top performing students in our prestigious Prize Giving Ceremony at the Guildhall, Winchester.





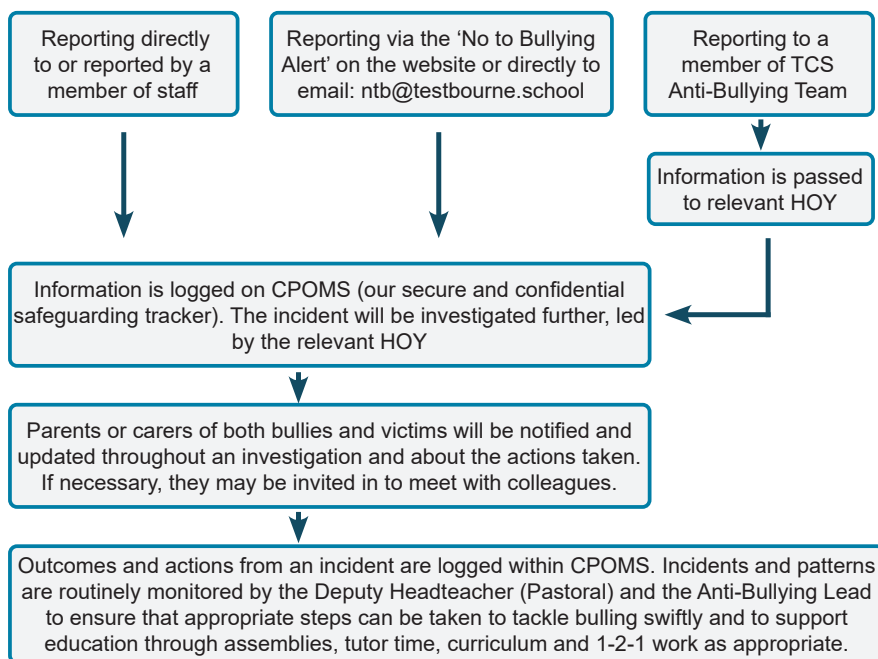
# Anti-bullying

Bullying of any kind is unacceptable at our school. Testbourne will not tolerate bullying between any members of its community including staff, students or the wider community. If bullying does occur, all students should be able to tell and know that incidents will be dealt with promptly and effectively. Anyone who knows that bullying is happening is expected to report this.

At Testbourne we believe that bullying is a choice, it should be challenged and can change.

*"Bullying happens when a group or individual person consistently abuses someone or another group physically, verbally, mentally or emotionally due to an imbalance of power. This can be because of their identity, background, religion or appearance."*

The flow chart below demonstrates our process when receiving bully reports:



For more information, please see our 'Anti-Bullying Policy' on our website.

If you are experiencing bullying in school or know someone who is then please submit a report via our website: <https://www.testbourne.school/home/students/bullying-alert/> or please email [ntb@testbourne.school](mailto:ntb@testbourne.school). Students in school can report any concern to any member of staff, their tutor or their Head of Year. We also have a team of Anti-bullying Ambassadors who work with students.



## Canteen

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A cafeteria and two canteen outlets operate at break and lunchtime, providing a range of salads, sandwiches, snacks and hot meals. All food is freshly prepared on site and complies fully with the government's Healthy Eating regulations.

Students have a SCOPAY canteen account to purchase food and drink. Their account must be in credit to cover the cost of items they wish to purchase. To help manage this, a low balance alert can be set up on your SCOPAY account in the Your Info – Alert Configuration section.

Students may also bring a packed lunch if they prefer, which can be eaten in the Theatre Hall or outside on the picnic benches.



# Extra-curricular

Fantastic opportunities outside the curriculum are on offer at TCS as we believe that providing and encouraging these are essential to developing the skills we want to see in our learners: resilience, inquisitive minds, dedication, commitment, team work and a growth mindset to enable them to grow as young people.

Teachers give up time to provide an excellent range of extra-curricular opportunities for our students, including lunchtime and after school clubs, and occasional residential or day trips. In a typical week there can be twenty or more activities on offer including – Art Clubs, Games Clubs, a Poetry Club, STEM Club, Dance Club, Duke of Edinburgh's Award group and a range of sporting and musical activities.

Testbourne has a strength in the Performing Arts (formerly being a specialist school in Performing Arts from 2005 - 2010) and our aim is to provide students with as many opportunities to perform on professional platforms. We feel strongly that the Performing Arts can offer something for all, so we therefore aim to offer something for all to a high standard.

The Performing Arts Faculty lead a whole school musical every other year and our most recent productions include Footloose (2023), We Will Rock You (2019), School of Rock (2017), and Oliver (2015). Extra curricular activities play a prominent part in school life, with a wide range of groups including Concert Orchestra, Bella Voce (auditioned choir), Wind, String and Brass Ensembles, Spectrum Dance Company and Testbourne Youth Theatre. We organise a biennial foreign music tour, allowing pupils to achieve a sense of achievement by performing in public, experience a different culture and to improve team work, commitment and discipline.

In addition to our vibrant Performing Arts program, Testbourne offers a diverse array of physical activities and sports through our PE extra-curricular program. Students have the opportunity to participate in various sports clubs, including football, basketball, tennis, and more. Our dedicated PE teachers foster a supportive environment where students can develop essential skills such as teamwork, leadership, and resilience while staying active and healthy. Whether it's honing their skills on the field or court, our PE program aims to inspire a lifelong love for physical activity and well-being.









# TCS

Testbourne Community School

Achievement Excellence Integrity

# Home / School Agreement

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At Testbourne, our vision is about how we want our students to develop as learners and people. We want students to achieve excellence, enjoy and value their education and become highly skilled learners prepared for a successful future. To achieve our vision, we have the highest expectations of students in terms of their learning and behaviour. In doing so, we want students to embrace our standards of excellence by:

- Being kind and respectful
- Acting with honesty and integrity
- Having ambition in learning
- Demonstrating leadership qualities

## **The school will:**

- Work with parents and carers to ensure that students attend regularly and on time
- Provide a caring and stimulating environment for learning
- Provide a balanced curriculum to prepare students for their next steps
- Encourage high achievement in both academic and non-academic areas of study
- Provide effective teaching that encourages students to take responsibility for their own learning
- Regularly and frequently set clear guidelines for work and behaviour
- Have regard for the individual characteristics and circumstances of students
- Promptly contact parents if there is a problem with attendance, punctuality or equipment
- Promptly let parents know about any concerns or problems that affect their child's work or behaviour
- Keep parents informed about their child's progress
- Recognise students for their efforts, achievements and for displaying the school's Standards of Excellence
- Arrange Parents' Evenings to discuss student progress
- Keep parents informed about school activities through regular letters home, newsletters and notices about special events

## **I, the student, will make every effort to:**

- Attend school regularly and on time
- Follow the school's rules and demonstrate the school's Testbourne Standards of Excellence
- Accept the consequences for behaviour that is not in line with the school's rules and ethos
- Complete all my classwork and homework on time and to the best of my ability
- Bring all the equipment I need every day
- Follow the school uniform regulations and be tidy in appearance
- Be polite, courteous, respectful, considerate and helpful to others
- Keep the school free from litter, damage and graffiti



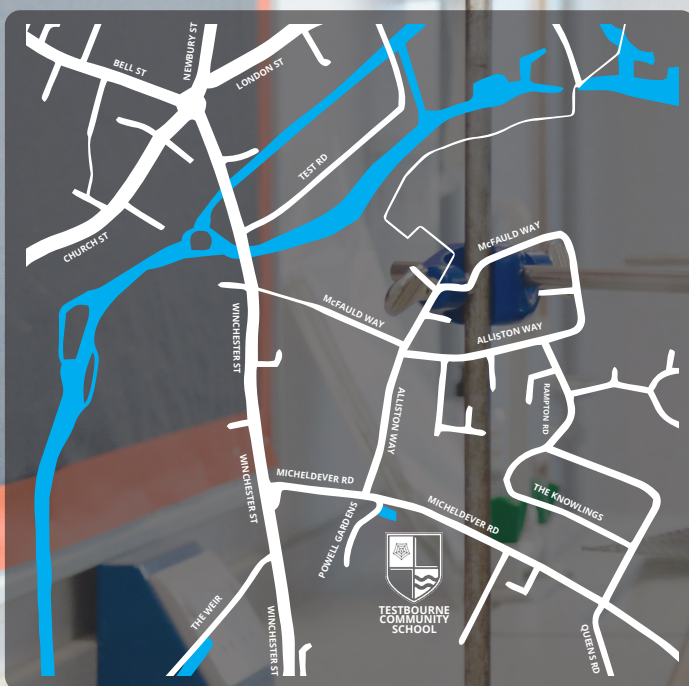


# Testbourne Community School

Contact us on **01256 892 061**

or visit

**[www.testbourne.school/contact](http://www.testbourne.school/contact)**



*"Students act with integrity; achieve excellence together; enjoy and value their education; feel and demonstrate respect for themselves and others and become highly skilled learners prepared for a successful future."*