



# **ADMISSIONS BROCHURE (Years 7-11)**

Academic Year 2026-2027

## **INFORMATION FOR PARENTS**

**Vyners School**  
Warren Road  
Ickenham  
Middlesex  
UB10 8AB  
Tel: **01895 234342**

office@vynersschool.org.uk  
**www.vynersschool.org.uk**

**Mr Gary Mullings BA(Hons) PGCE MEd**  
Headteacher





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## **HEADTEACHER INTRODUCTION**

Welcome to Vyners School. We are delighted that your son or daughter will shortly be joining our school community.

As part of the admissions process, we need to collect lots of information about your child including any medical information and emergency contact information. The School now uses an electronic system - Admissions+ - to collect this information from you efficiently and in a paperless form.

All sections of the electronic form need to be completed before we can complete your child's enrolment. Please make sure you do this as soon as possible. The electronic form asks you, as a parent, to confirm your agreement to a number of key school policies. All the documentation needed to complete your child's enrolment is contained within the system. This booklet has, however, been put together as an easy reference guide as to how our school works. It duplicates much of the information contained within that system.

We are very much looking forward to meeting your son or daughter and to seeing you, as a parent, at a school event in the future.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gary Mullings', written in a cursive style.

Gary Mullings, Headteacher





## **MISSION STATEMENT / VALUES**

### **Mission Statement**

At Vyners we aspire to be an outstanding school in every sense of the word and our aim is that we can be confident that, hand on heart, 100% of our students get a great deal here. Every decision is made with the question in mind '*Will this help the students to learn better and achieve more?*' We believe in a relentless focus on high achievement in all areas of the life of the school.

At our core is an understanding that every individual has the opportunity and responsibility to impact positively on the lives of others; that every individual in our community is unique and has gifts and talents that should be celebrated at every opportunity.

### **Values**

Our community begins with its set of values because they say, "*This is what is important to us and this is what we want to see and feel in our school.*" Our values shape our policies and can be summarised as **CARE**:

- **Community**
- **Aspiration**
- **Respect**
- **Endeavour**

### **The Vyners' 10**

The Vyners' 10 reminds us of what our community expectations are:

1. I am proud of who I am and what I have achieved today
2. I actively participate in lessons and school activities
3. I can if I think I can, and I strive to do my best even when learning is difficult
4. I value others and understand that our individuality makes our community stronger
5. I share in and celebrate everyone's success
6. I do as I'm asked, the first time I'm asked
7. I am always in the right place at the right time, doing the right thing
8. I understand that school is a formal environment; I dress and behave accordingly
9. I attend regularly and arrive on time with the correct equipment
10. I am proud of our school, helping to look after it and create a positive learning environment.



## SCHOOL COMMUNICATION

We place a high value on frequent and clear communication channels being established and maintained between the school and home. Detailed below is guidance on ensuring how these communication channels can be kept as efficient and effective as possible:

1. All students in Year 7 will be given a planner. This is the student's personal organiser. It contains space for their timetable and space to record their homework. Homework is also issued on Google Classroom and this will be explained to students and parents at the beginning of the autumn term. The planner has a space for parents and tutors to communicate in writing.
2. Parents will receive regular reports on the academic progress of their child each term. Reports will contain information on each student's targets for the subjects they study and updates as to their progress. In their first year, Year 7 receive a 'settling in' report in December and a full progress check at the end of the academic year. Thereafter, students will receive a full report at the end of the summer term, including a tutor report. Letters will normally be emailed home, and it is therefore vital that the school holds an up to date email address at all times. Parents/carers should keep this information up to date via the Arbor Parent Portal App (see page 35). Occasionally letters will be posted via Royal Mail. The school also operates a 'texting' service. For this to operate effectively, parents/carers should ensure the school holds an up to date phone number for the student's primary contact at all times.
3. Information meetings with parents will take place in the autumn term for all year groups. In addition, the Parents' Evening which is held in the Spring / Summer Term is an important opportunity to discuss your child's progress with their individual subject teachers. These are now held remotely and you will need to make appointments online prior to this evening. We aim to have 100% parental attendance.
4. A 'Headteacher Update' is emailed fortnightly to all parents on a Friday afternoon. This document includes a brief summary of important information regarding current and upcoming matters and events. Year Leaders send a similar update on alternate Fridays when a whole school newsletter is not sent.
5. Should you wish to speak to your child's tutor or subject teachers before then, please phone 01895 234342 or email the school on [office@vynersschool.org.uk](mailto:office@vynersschool.org.uk) or send an email via the website.
6. School reception is open from 8.00am – 4.15pm daily, Monday to Thursday (3.45pm on Friday). If you come to the school site, you must always report to Reception which is clearly signposted. If you visit by car, please park in the designated visitor's spaces. In the event that the main barrier to the car park is closed, please use the intercom at the gate to speak to a member of staff. **Parents are reminded that there is no routine vehicular access to the school site in order to drop off or pick up students.** This is to ensure pedestrian safety.
7. From February 2024, it has no longer been possible to drop off items for your child during the school day. This is due to the size of the school community (now 1500 students). Please ensure your child has everything they need for the school day before they leave home.



### Expectations of parents / carers

Vyners School welcomes dialogue with, and feedback from, its parents / carers community. Our 'Home-School Communication Protocol', available from the school website, sets out in detail how we communicate and consult with you, and how to direct any queries or concerns. Please also take a look at the helpful document issued by the Department for Education on how to raise queries, concerns or complaints with us. Addressing your query to the right person helps us respond to you quickly and effectively, so please follow the guidance in both of these documents.

The school understands that parental concerns are important and that a failure to immediately speak with the relevant member of staff can cause anxiety and frustration. Parents are, however, reminded that many teachers are in the classroom all day, and delivering extra support and extra-curricular activities for your children outside this time. These activities, by their nature, limit their ability to respond immediately to queries.

Parents are asked to respect the right of staff to have a private life. The school does not expect its staff to respond to emails or make phone calls home before 8am or after 5pm, or during school holidays. Parents / carers are asked not to contact staff via unofficial channels, including social media. This respects the privacy of staff outside normal working hours and also enables them to respond to you more effectively when they are in school with all the necessary information to hand. Please note that the school has a policy of not responding to comments, feedback, or concerns posted via social media platforms.

Parents are asked to maintain an appropriate standard of courtesy. Aggressive, verbally abusive, or physically abusive behaviour (either verbally or in person) to school staff will not be tolerated and may ultimately result in parents being refused access to the school site.



## TIMINGS FOR THE SCHOOL DAY

<b>Breakfast Club</b>	<b>08:00 – 08:25</b>
<b>Late Bell</b>	<b>08:30</b> Students who arrive after 08.30 are late
<b>Registration/Tutorial/Assembly</b>	<b>08:30 – 08:50</b>
<b>Period 1</b>	<b>08:50 – 09:50</b> Registers close 09.15
<b>Movement time</b>	<b>09.50 - 09.55</b>
<b>Period 2</b>	<b>09.55 - 10.55</b>
<b>Morning Break</b>	<b>10:55 – 11:20</b>
<b>Period 3</b>	<b>11:20 – 12:20</b>
<b>Movement time</b>	<b>12:20 – 12:25</b>
<b>Period 4</b>	<b>12:25 – 13:25</b>
<b>Afternoon Break</b>	<b>13:25 – 14:00</b>
<b>Period 5</b>	<b>14:00 – 15:00</b> Years 7, 8 and 9 are dismissed at 14.55 Years 10-13 at 15.00

There will be no bells rung between lessons.

A bell will be rung at 08.30 to clearly indicate when students are late.

A bell will also be rung 5 minutes before the end of break and lunch, to signal to students it is time to make their way to their next lessons.

Parents are advised that, unless their child is attending a scheduled intervention session or extra-curricular activity, there is no staff supervision in place for students arriving before 08.00 or remaining after 15.15. **Parents are asked NOT to drop their children at school before 08.00. as they will not be allowed access to the school site.**



## TERM DATES 2026-2027

### Autumn Term 2026

<b>Staff Development Day</b>	Wednesday 2nd September 2026
<b>Induction Day (all students)</b>	Thursday 3rd September 2026 Starting arrangements for individual year groups are confirmed in the end of term letter
<b>Normal lessons start</b>	Friday 4th September 2026
<b>HALF TERM</b>	Monday 26th October – Friday 30th October 2026
<b>Staff Development Days</b>	Thursday 19th – Friday 20th November 2026
<b>Occasional day – SCHOOL CLOSED</b>	Monday 23rd November 2026
<b>Term Ends</b>	Friday 18th December 2026

### Spring Term 2027

<b>Staff Development Day</b>	Monday 4th January 2027
<b>Term Starts</b>	Tuesday 5th January 2027
<b>HALF TERM</b>	Monday 15th February – Friday 19th February 2027
<b>Term Ends</b>	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> March 2027 (Easter weekend 26 <sup>th</sup> March – 29 <sup>th</sup> March 2026)

### Summer Term 2027

<b>Term Starts</b>	Monday 12th April 2027
<b>May Day</b>	Monday 3rd May 2027
<b>HALF TERM</b>	Monday 31st May – Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> June 2027
<b>Staff Development Day</b>	Friday 25th June 2027
<b>Term Ends</b>	Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> July 2027



## **ATTENDANCE - Student Absences Notification**

Attendance at school is directly linked to achievement and we therefore have very high expectations of students. We regard the minimum acceptable level of attendance to be 97% and we would encourage students to aim for 100%. Student absence below 90% is classed by the government as Persistent Absenteeism and can be reported to the Participation Team at the London Borough of Hillingdon. Please support the school in emphasising the importance of good attendance.

All student absence must be reported on a **DAILY** basis by notifying Student Services (Attendance) on 01895 234342 (option 1) or by email to [attendance@vynersschool.org.uk](mailto:attendance@vynersschool.org.uk).

An automated text system is used to notify parents if their child is not in school. This system is in place to safeguard children and to pick up any truancy. The system will automatically send a text if your child is not marked in at morning (AM) registration.

Failure to notify the school of absence will result in the mark showing as unauthorised.

Absence will be authorised for dental, hospital and doctor's appointments. In the event of a family bereavement or funeral, authorisation can be given by the Student Attendance Officer.

All other absence, classed as exceptional circumstances, will be subject to approval by the Headteacher, Mr Mullings, and should be addressed to him, in writing, at least two weeks prior to the dates requested to allow time to respond. **You should be aware that family holidays do not fit into this category and will not be authorised.**

All appointments during school hours should be kept to an absolute minimum. Ideally students should attend school prior to appointments and then sign out, which will maintain their attendance. It is expected that students should sign out for an appointment and then return to school straight after. It is not acceptable for students to take a whole day off to attend a medical appointment which (in most instances) will take only a short period out of the day.

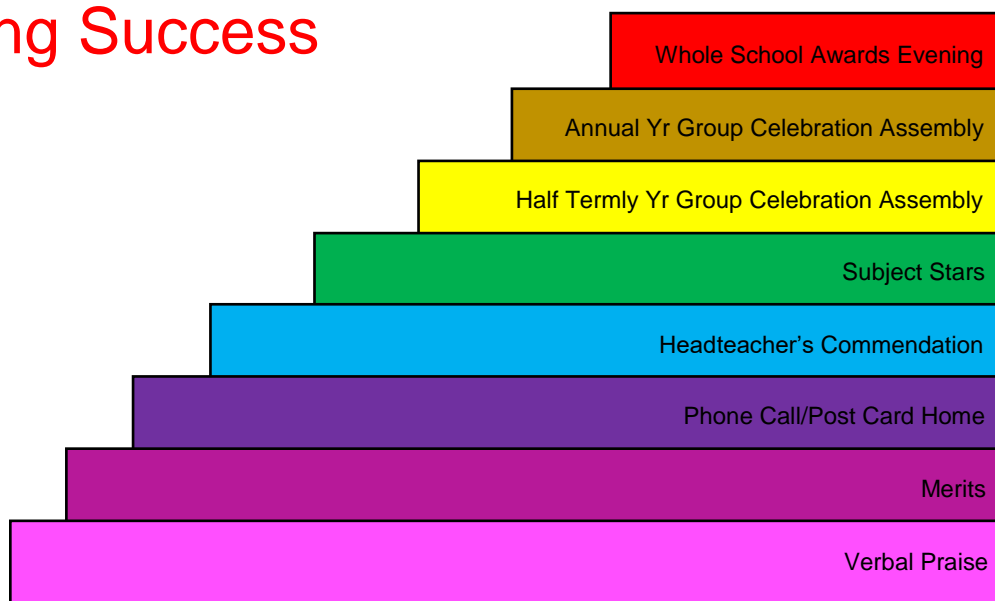
Students who have to leave school for appointments will need to show evidence of this, either by an appointment letter/card or a letter from a parent. An electronic version of this will be an acceptable form of evidence. They will be required to show this to their class teacher and also Student Services staff when they sign out. On their return they will sign back into school via Student Services.

Students coming into school late should sign into Student Services with a letter/appointment card to confirm where they have been. Failure to provide this will result in a detention.



## REWARDS AND CONSEQUENCES

### Celebrating Success



Our community begins with its set of values because they say, *"This is what is important to us and this is what we want to see and feel in our school."* Our values shape our rewards and consequences system. It is important that students are rewarded for good behaviour and that there are consequences for poor behaviour.

Students are awarded merits when they demonstrate our school values. The school also recognises excellence – be that through attainment, positive behaviour, attitude or effort – via Headteacher commendations and postcards home. Our annual awards assemblies are also an important way of recognising student achievement and effort.

#### Basic Rules of the Consequence System

Our school rules reflect our values. These rules are important to enable our school community to be the best it can be. Vyners School believes that students should be given the chance to behave. If they choose not to behave, they will be given a warning. It is a student's choice to regulate their behaviour but if they fail to do so, there will be a consequence.

Our consequence system will be applied by all staff consistently and is based on giving students chances, choices and consequences.

- Staff will always try to build relationships with students and encourage students to choose the correct behaviour.
- Once a consequence has been given, it cannot be taken back except through consultation with a Deputy Headteacher.
- Consequences cannot be "given blind" and students will always be told why they have received a consequence.



### **C3 Detentions**

Students are informed of a C3 detention on the day they misbehave. They are then given the evening to inform their parents/carers; the detention will also be recorded on Arbor. Students will be notified when they should attend their 60 minute detention. This takes place, in silence, from 3pm - 4pm. If a student fails to attend a C3, their consequence will be converted into a 2 hour 'Headteacher Detention'. These detentions take place on a Friday evening.

Students failing to attend a Headteacher Detention will receive a C4 followed by a further C3 detention.

### **C3+ Lesson Removal**

Students who are persistently disruptive in a single lesson will be removed by Senior Leadership and will spend the next 3 lessons in internal isolation. Removal of persistently disruptive students is seen as necessary to safeguard the learning of other students in the room.

### **C4 Internal Exclusion**

If a student is given a C4, then the same procedures will follow as for a C3. Instead of a detention, students will work in the Reflection Room for the school day and then join the C3 detention for 60 minutes after school. Work will be provided for them and they will have supervised breaks and lunchtimes. They will also have a conversation with a senior member of staff about how their behaviour should be changed to avoid a similar outcome in the future. Students may bring a packed lunch, or they will be able to buy a sandwich from the canteen. They will not be allowed to spend time with friends at break or lunch.

Students serving a C4 consequence are expected to exhibit a high standard of behaviour. They are also expected to work productively throughout the day. Should a student fall short in these expectations, they may be required to re-serve the consequence.



<b>CONSEQUENCE</b>	<b>BEHAVIOUR</b>	<b>SANCTION</b>
<b>C1</b>	Disrupting the learning of others Talking/arguing/out of seat Uniform/appearance Lack of equipment	<b>VERBAL WARNING</b>
<b>C2</b>	Repetition of any C1 offence	<b>2<sup>ND</sup> VERBAL WARNING</b>
<b>C3</b>	Repetition of any C2 offence Rudeness to a member of staff Refusal to follow instructions Inappropriate language including swearing in conversation Littering Lateness to lessons > 5 minutes Offsite at lunch time Abuse of open access – being out of bounds Use of phone/mp3 player Failure to attend department homework detention Eating out of bounds No standards card / no planner Truancy	<b>ONE HOUR DETENTION</b>
<b>C3+</b>	Persistent disruption in a lesson, disturbing the learning of others	<b>LESSON REMOVAL</b>
<b>Headteacher Detention (Friday after school)</b>	Failure to attend C3 detention Misbehaviour in a C3 detention	
<b>C4</b>	Repetition of any C3 offence Dishonesty/lying to a member of staff Swearing across a room Swearing at another student Chewing gum Walking away from a member of staff Use of discriminatory language Deliberate defiance Fighting Bullying incident Any 2 C3 incidents in one day	<b>INTERNAL EXCLUSION</b>
<b>C5</b>	Persistent C4 behaviour Gross disobedience Swearing at or about a member of staff Smoking and or the possession of smoking paraphernalia including, but not limited to cigarettes, vapes, lighters, filters, tobacco, papers. Being in the vicinity of smokers The possession and or consumption of alcohol Assault Persistent bullying Racist or homophobic abuse Inappropriate use of a mobile phone/computer Theft, Graffiti or Vandalism Poor behaviour during C4	<b>FIXED TERM EXCLUSION</b>
<b>C6</b>	Persistent C5 behaviour Possession of offensive weapon Serious theft or vandalism Possession of illegal drugs Violence toward a member of staff	<b>PERMANENT EXCLUSION</b>



## **CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS**

### **At the start of the lesson, students will be expected to:**

- Where appropriate, line up outside the classroom before entering.
- Enter the room quietly and sensibly.
- Remove jackets, outside coats, scarves, gloves before entering the building.
- Make sure their uniform is correct; shirt tucked in, top button fastened.
- Sit in the correct place within the seating plan.
- Ensure their student planner and equipment is out on the desk.
- If late, apologise to the teacher and explain why. Students will be expected to make up the time at break or lunch.

### **During the lesson, students will be expected to:**

- Take pride in their work. Underline titles, date and signpost every piece of work (cwk, HL, ext).
- Listen to other people's opinions and respect their views.
- Not talk whilst the teacher is talking.
- Put up their hand if they wish to make a point or ask a question.
- If stuck, try to solve the problem themselves first by asking a classmate, reading through notes or checking the textbook.
- Not leave their seat unless asked to do so.
- Record home-learning in their planner or on Google Classroom.
- Aim to contribute at least once every lesson.

### **At the end of the lesson, students will be expected to:**

- Pack away all equipment but only when asked to by the teacher.
- Put all rubbish in the bin.
- Stand behind the desk until dismissed by the teacher.
- Check they understand the home-learning tasks.
- Be clear about the content of the next lesson so they can prepare for it.
- Leave the chairs under the tables, or on the tables at the end of the day.
- Go straight to the next class.

### **Finally, but most importantly, students will be expected to:**

- Carry out at once and without argument, any reasonable request from a member of staff. There is no excuse for rudeness, disrespect or insolence towards any member of staff.



## **HOME - SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP**

### **Vyners School will:**

- Provide a suitable curriculum appropriate to the needs of each student.
- Keep parents informed of their child's progress and contact them at the earliest appropriate opportunity should difficulties arise.
- Do its best to ensure that all students attain their full potential.
- Provide opportunities for students to develop beyond the school curriculum through extra-curricular activities.
- Keep parents informed of general school matters.
- Insist on the highest possible standards of discipline and behaviour.
- Encourage students to be responsible and caring members of the school and local community.
- Set and mark home learning tasks in accordance with the school assessment policy.
- Do its best to ensure the safety and wellbeing of the students.

### **Parents / Carers are asked to:**

- Take an active interest in their child's life at school.
- Support their child's learning.
- Make sure that their child attends school regularly, on time, properly equipped and in full school uniform.
- Support the school in upholding its rules and behaviour policy.
- Make sure their child completes home learning tasks to the best of his / her ability.
- Make the school aware of any concerns or problems that might affect their child's work or behaviour.
- Encourage their child to participate in extra-curricular activities.
- Attend parents' evenings and discussions about their child's progress.
- Avoid taking their child out of school during term times.

### **Students are expected to:**

- Work to the best of their ability in school and at home.
- Attend school regularly and on time.
- Bring the correct equipment for school each day.
- Wear their uniform correctly in and out of school.
- Complete their home learning tasks in good time.



- Keep to the school rules, be polite and helpful at all times, both in school and to and from school.
- Give service to the school where possible.
- Get involved in any extra-curricular activities which interest them.
- Behave in a manner which shows respect for others in the school, supporting other students where possible.



## **PERSONAL PORTABLE DEVICES (phone, tablet, iPad, smart watch, laptop etc.) USAGE CONTRACT**

Research and experience has shown that smartphones and other electronic devices can often be a distraction to learning, social interaction and emotional wellbeing, particularly for younger students. Since 2010, when smartphones and social media became mainstream, there has been a sharp rise in youth mental health concerns, including anxiety, self-harm and depression. Smartphone users are being deliberately targeted in the street, with their devices being stolen out of their hands. There is also increasing evidence that extensive smartphone use is altering development in the teenage brain and impairing the ability of young people to focus, retain information and engage in sustained activity, including learning.

In order to help our Year 7 students settle into secondary school, build strong face to face relationships and fully engage with their learning, we have made the decision not to allow Year 7 students to bring a smartphone into school from September 2026.

### **Permitted devices for Year 7**

Year 7 students may bring a mobile phone to school, but it must be a traditional phone that does not have wifi access eg the Nokia 105, Nokia 110 or IMO Dash.

Internet enabled tracker devices, such as Apple, Samsung, Tile or Amazon Tags are permitted for families who wish to monitor a student on their journey to and from school. These devices must be kept securely in school bags during the day.

Smart watches are not permitted for Year 7 students. It is recommended that students have a traditional wristwatch in order to tell the time.

### **Permitted devices for Years 8-11**

For Years 8-11, the existing policy remains in force. Devices must be switched off and out of sight as soon as students enter the school quad (or come through reception). Any phone seen or heard during the day will be confiscated and held for the next 24 hours.

Other mobile devices eg headphones and smartpods must similarly be put away and out of sight during the day.

### **Permitted devices for Year 12 and 13 (Sixth Form)**

Sixth Form students may use smartphones in the canteen areas during free lessons and in the study room. Smartphones, headphones and earpods should be out of sight at all other times.

### **Principles applicable to all year groups**

All portable devices remain the responsibility of the student at all times and the school accepts no responsibility for loss or damage of such items. Students are discouraged from bringing expensive items into school.



For students in Years 8 and above, personal portable devices may only be used inside classrooms with the express permission of the member of staff in charge of the activity for which the device is required. Should an activity need internet access, the school will provide an appropriate device for students (e.g. the lesson will be held in a designated IT room or a chromebook will be issued for the lesson).

School trips are considered to be lesson time and use of portable devices will be at the discretion of the teacher in charge.

Students will not be allowed to use a portable device in place of a calculator at any time. Students should come to school properly equipped with a calculator for their maths lessons.

Every student is issued with a hard copy of their timetable at the start of the school year. Year 7's also have a hard copy planner in which they can write their timetable. No student needs to check their timetable on a mobile phone.

Portable devices (including smart watches) are never allowed in examination rooms, even if turned off and in a bag. These are National Examination Board rules. Any breach of these rules will be reported to the examination board and could jeopardise a student's formal exam results.

Parents are asked to support the school in the implementation of this policy by NOT calling or messaging their child during the school day. This encourages students to break the school rules and potentially incur a consequence. If you need to speak to your child urgently, please phone the school (01895 200849) or email the main school office ([office@vynersschool.org.uk](mailto:office@vynersschool.org.uk)).

If your child has a medical condition requiring use of a smartphone (eg diabetes), please contact our pastoral team as soon as possible. This allows appropriate arrangements to be put in place to support a student's health, whilst maintaining the integrity of this policy.

### Sanctions:

Any breach in the agreed rules will result in the immediate confiscation of the portable device and a C3 detention in the first instance.

Confiscated portable devices will be taken to Student Services by the member of staff who confiscates them. Student Services will log and secure any confiscated device.

For Years 8 and above, the portable device will be returned to the owner at the end of the next school day. Devices confiscated on Friday will be returned for the weekend.

Following a second offence, a further C3 detention will be issued and the portable device must be collected by the parent / carer. Devices confiscated from Year 7 students must always be collected by a parent.

Further offences will be treated as deliberate defiance, for which a C4 will be issued. The school reserves the right to permanently ban a student from bringing a portable device to school where they demonstrate a repeated unwillingness to respect the school rules.



## **PERMISSION TO CYCLE TO SCHOOL**

The school has always supported students walking and cycling to school. These are environmentally and healthy methods of transportation, and reduce congestion in the immediate area around the school.

The school is keen to continue this ethos and to see the cycle racks on the school site used to their full capacity by students.

The benefits of cycling to school include:

- Improving student health and wellbeing, via physical exercise.
- Promoting student independence and improving safety awareness.
- Reducing traffic and congestion on Warren Road, with its associated risks to students on foot and inconvenience to residents.
- Cycling is also a more environmentally friendly way to travel and, after the initial investment, is a cheap form of transport.

However, in order to safeguard the safety of students, the school has certain expectations:

- That students will ride sensibly and with due regard to the Highway Code and other road users.
- That cycles are maintained in a roadworthy condition.
- The school insists that students wear helmets, have lights fitted to their cycles and wear some kind of reflective material when travelling in the dark.
- No cycling is permitted on the school site. Students should dismount at the school gates and wheel their cycle to the sheds.
- Students are responsible for ensuring their cycle is locked when in school. The school accepts no liability for loss or damage to cycles whilst on school property and recommends that cycles are appropriately insured. Please note that the school insurance does not cover the theft of student cycles from school premises.

Whilst the school will continue to support students who wish to cycle to school, the decision as to whether a student should cycle to and from school ultimately rests with the parent / carer. It is for parents to assess their child's competence and confidence on the road, and ensure they are appropriately equipped.

Parents who wish their child to cycle to school, either regularly or occasionally give this school permission online via Admissions+.

The school will conduct periodic 'spot checks' of students cycling to school, to ensure they are doing so with parental consent.

### **Parent / Carer Declaration**

- 1: If I have given my child permission to cycle to school, I understand that it is my responsibility to ensure that their cycle is roadworthy and well maintained.
- 2: I understand that the school does not insure my child's cycle against theft, and that I therefore need to make my own arrangements.
- 3: I acknowledge the school's stipulation that cyclists must wear a helmet and have lights / reflective clothing when it gets dark.
- 4: I have ensured my child has been briefed on road safety.



**Student Declaration**

I understand that it is my responsibility to lock my cycle every day. I understand that cycling is not permitted on the school site. I understand that on my journey to and from school, I am representing

Vyners School and should therefore show consideration to other road users, in line with the Vyners Values.



## **STUDENT LOCKERS**

Like many other secondary schools, Vyners School makes available key operated lockers for students' personal use.

All student lockers are now situated in corridors, to facilitate easy access. Due to the expansion of the school that took place between 2019 and 2024, we are unfortunately no longer able to guarantee a locker for every child.

800 lockers are available across all year groups. Lockers are available on a 'first come, first served' basis.

To support the administration of the scheme, and to enable the school to keep lockers in good repair, there is a fee of £40 per locker. **This will reserve a locker for your child for 4 years i.e. until the end of Year 10.**

If you wish to reserve a locker for your child, payment should be made via Parentpay, our online payment system. Please note that you will not be able to make payment until after you have received your Parentpay registration letter in early July. The locker offer for year 7 will not be active until after this date.

To pay using this system, please log-on to Parentpay. This payment will be clearly visible (**Year 7 Lockers 2026**). Please follow the instructions on screen. An emailed receipt will automatically be sent to you by the system once payment is made. Detailed information on how to use the cashless system is on the school website under 'cashless at Vyners'.

Students who have registered their eligibility for free school meals before the end of this academic year will be issued a locker key free of charge in September.

The deadline for payment is **Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July 2026.** Please note that payment must be made by this deadline in order to guarantee a locker key when your child starts in September. Lockers are allocated strictly on a 'first come first served' basis.

Parents will be given periodic opportunities to either return a locker early (if their child no longer wishes to have one). The school will refund part of the initial payment for early locker returns.

Parents will be asked to meet the cost of any replacement keys needed - currently £5 per key. Locker keys, by their nature, are small and easily lost. Parents are strongly recommended to ensure their child's key is attached to a chunky key ring.



## **LESSON EQUIPMENT**

### **Standard Equipment**

All students need a basic set of stationery, including a range of highlighters, blue, green and red pens, pencils, pencil sharpener, rubber, pencil case, ruler **and a glue stick**. A range of coloured fine liner pens would be useful but are not essential.

From September 2023, the school canteen stopped selling drinks in single use plastic bottles. Over 18,000 bottles were being purchased – and disposed of – in a single term. The school provides water fountains around the site, and the canteen has a refillable drinks facility.

**Please make sure your child brings a reusable water bottle to school.**

### **Mathematics Department**

All students need a set of basic mathematical equipment:

- 30cm ruler
- Protractor
- Pair of compasses
- Casio scientific calculator. It is essential it is a proper 'scientific' calculator and not a non-scientific model where only four operations are possible. Casio are generally the most user-friendly and teaching approaches are simplified by students purchasing the same models. It is recommended that solar powered calculators also have a battery back-up.

### **Art Department**

The majority of equipment and materials needed are provided by the school. The following equipment needs to be supplied by the student:

- HB and 2B pencils
- Eraser – preferably soft and uncoloured
- Colouring pencils

### **PE Department**

The PE curriculum includes activities such as hockey and rugby. These sports' governing bodies strongly recommend the wearing of custom fitted mouth guards and students are expected to adhere to these guidelines. Mouth guards can be purchased from most sports shops and if you would like to purchase a custom fit mouth guard you can do from <https://www.opro.com/>. If you would like further information please contact Mr Hall on [thall@vynersschool.org.uk](mailto:thall@vynersschool.org.uk) or 01895 234342, ext. 4241.



## **SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS (INCLUSION)**

Vyners School pays due regard to the Code of Practice when carrying out its duties towards all students with special educational needs and ensures that parents are notified of a decision by Vyners School that SEN provision is being made for their son or daughter. Partnership with parents plays a key role in enabling our students with SEN to achieve their potential. Vyners School recognises that parents hold key information and have knowledge and experience to contribute to the shared view of their son or daughter's needs and the best ways of supporting them. All parents of students with special educational needs will be treated as partners and supported to play an active and valued role in their son or daughter's education.

All departments and subject staff aim to meet the needs of all the students they teach through the use of differentiation, a range of teaching strategies and techniques and appropriate grouping. When this 'quality first' teaching does not prompt progress, students may be brought to the attention of the SENCo to ascertain if they need support that is additional to and different from normal classroom practice.

During the summer term, the SENCo obtains information from Year 6 class teachers and primary SENCos on those students who have been identified as having additional needs. Further information comes from the student's primary school records. Before the start of the new school year, all Year 7 subject teachers are given brief details of students, who have been identified as possibly needing additional support. In the autumn term Year 7 students who were identified by their primary school as having additional needs are given reading and spelling tests and cognitive ability tests.

Following on from testing, parents will be informed if their son or daughter is going to be put on the SEN register at Vyners School.

The SENCo, Ms Samantha Kendall, welcomes any relevant information from parents relating to the educational needs of their son or daughter and can be contacted via the school office or via email to [skendall@vynersschool.org.uk](mailto:skendall@vynersschool.org.uk)



## ASTHMA POLICY AND GUIDELINES

The school:

- Welcomes all students with asthma.
- Will encourage students with asthma to participate fully in all aspects of school life.
- Recognises that asthma is an important condition affecting many school children.
- Aims to allow all students to take responsibility for their own medication.
- Has a clear understanding of what to do in the event of a student having an asthma attack.
- Will hold annual whole staff asthma training which includes a practical supervised session on the administration of salbutamol inhalers with a spacer.
- Will help all parents, students and staff to be well informed about asthma and adopt a responsible attitude in its treatment.

### 1. Use of Inhalers in School

- All students must have their own inhaler with them at all times. They should also take their inhaler with them to PE and on any school journey or trip.
- In the case of an emergency if a student's inhaler is unavailable, the school has a spare inhaler and spacer for use. There are also spare inhalers in the emergency bags situated in student services, the 6th form study room, in DT, in PE and at the bottom and top of the humanities stairs. **Parents must have provided consent to the school before such an emergency inhaler will be administered.**

### 2. Spacers

- A spacer is available in the emergency bags situated in student services, the 6th form study room, in DT, in PE and at the bottom and top of the humanities stairs.
- A spacer can help a child to take their inhaler more effectively (especially during a severe attack) and it is recommended that every child needing an emergency inhaler carries one with them at all times.

### 3. What the school will do in the event of a severe attack:

- If a child is a known asthmatic and does not have their inhaler with them (or it fails to work), the school will administer its own emergency, non-prescription inhaler to those students for whom prior permission has been received from parents. This permission is required as the school inhalers contain a generic, rather than a specifically prescribed, dosage.
- If the student does not respond positively to medication, the school will arrange for the student to be taken to A&E at Hillingdon Hospital. The parent/carer will be contacted in order for them to accompany the student in the ambulance. If the parent/carer is uncontactable or unable to arrive before the ambulance leaves, a member of staff will accompany the child to hospital and wait/meet the parent/carer at A&E.



While waiting for Paramedics, the students will be instructed to continue with the blue relief inhaler 10 puffs every 15 minutes until medical help arrives.



## **STUDENTS WITH SEVERE ALLERGIES (Anaphylaxis) POLICY**

1. It is the parents' responsibility to inform Student Services about a student's condition before commencement of school.
2. The school will arrange a meeting with the parent and school nurse, if necessary. Action plans and protocols will be drawn up.
3. The parent/carer will send in a copy of the students' care plan from the hospital specialist. It is the parent's responsibility to update medical instructions and provide consent for the administration of medication.
4. It is the responsibility of the parents to provide **TWO** adrenaline auto-injectors, which must be in the child's bag at all times. Oral antihistamine and an inhaler should also be supplied and carried, if this is part of their allergy care plan.
5. In line with current NHS advice, student services will not hold spare adrenaline auto-injectors for students. The school will, however, hold a non-prescription device for use in an emergency. Parents of children with a known allergy and a prescribed adrenaline auto-injector will be asked to consent to the use of the non-prescription device. This will be used if the child's own adrenaline auto injector fails or the child does not have their own device with them. This permission is required as the school adrenaline auto injectors contain a generic, rather than a specifically prescribed, dosage.
- 5. It is the responsibility of the student to carry 2 x adrenaline auto injectors, Ceritizine (or the antihistamine that is on their Care Plan) and Inhaler at all times. This will include all school activities within or outside school grounds.**
6. It is the parents' responsibility to check the expiry date of any medication that their children will be carrying and to replace medication immediately, which is due to expire or has been used. The school holds the same responsibility in relation to its own emergency adrenaline auto injectors.
7. The school will ensure that all first aiders and other staff volunteers have received recognised training and updates.
8. All staff will have attended the annual anaphylaxis training. This will include practical supervised sessions on the administration of an adrenaline auto injectors and will have access to a student's condition by the care plans which are held on the IT network.
9. When the planned curriculum involves contact with food items (e.g. food technology), prior discussion will take place between the school and parents/carers to agree on suitable ingredients.



## **PUPIL PREMIUM / FREE SCHOOL MEALS (FSM)**

### **Pupil Premium**

Pupil Premium is money specifically granted by the Government to help schools raise the attainment of disadvantaged students. There is evidence that those students who have experienced disruption in their domestic family arrangements, or who have experienced financial hardship lag behind their peers in terms of educational achievement. Pupil Premium funding is in place to enable schools to ensure that there is no attainment gap between these students and other students. It is used in many ways, from funding places on curriculum essential school trips and visits, to meeting the cost of revision/specially targeted intervention sessions for eligible students.

Whilst a child's eligibility for FSM is a known fact, we are conscious that a student's home circumstances are a private and often sensitive matter. The school can only apply for funding for students if they are known to us. Parents / carers therefore need to 'self-declare' their eligibility to the school. If you believe this applies to you, please contact Mr Millard-Healy (amillard-healy@vynersschool.org.uk) in confidence to discuss your eligibility.

### **Free School Meals (FSM)**

Free school meals are available to any full-time student who is still at school and eligible. Your child may get free school meals if you or your partner gets any of the following:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

Once your child is successfully registered for FSM, their cashless catering account will be credited with £3.02 every day. This can be spent on whatever they would like in the canteen. A hot cooked meal will always be available at this price.

### **How do I apply for FSM?**

Apply online at <https://pps.lgfl.org.uk> and you will receive an immediate answer. If you are eligible, the school will be immediately notified. If you are unable to access a computer or would like us to apply on your behalf, please contact Mrs Kelly Tighe, one of our Family Liaison Officers on 01895 234342 ext. 4222.

Please note we are unable to backdate claims for FSM to cover unpaid dinner money, or to refund dinner money paid prior to the date of a successful application.

### **Funding for Essential Trips**

For curriculum essential trips and Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, the school endeavours to automatically identify students in receipt of Free School Meals and encourages them to participate by funding their place. Non-essential trips and activities are typically not funded, however, should you feel



that your financial situation is preventing your child participating, please contact the group leader in confidence, so that consideration may be given to part funding your child's place via Pupil Premium.



## **ONLINE PAYMENT SYSTEM (Parentpay)**

The school operates a cashless system for school trips/activities and for paying for items purchased in the school canteen. It also operates a biometric system where students use their finger to uniquely identify themselves. The biometric system converts an image of an individual's fingerprint into a unique alphanumeric code. All data is held securely on the school servers and no image of the fingerprint itself is retained.

Families are allowed to choose whether they identify themselves in the canteen via the biometric system, or via a plastic ID card. Students that prefer to use a card will receive the first card for free; replacements will be charged at £5 per card. The card must be treated as if it were cash. The school accepts no liability for funds spent on a card which has been mislaid.

The online payment system is a really positive aspect of life for Vyners School, for the following reasons:

1. Customer throughput in the canteen is maximised during the busy break and lunchtime periods, enabling more students to be served.
2. Students eligible for free school meals are offered anonymity, thus removing any stigma attached to accessing the service.
3. Parents and carers can view canteen purchases online.
4. Students do not need to bring 'real' money into school, reducing the risk of loss in transit and the risk of any bullying.
5. The system is a quick, secure and convenient way for parents / carers to make a number of payments to the school online at once.

No cash is accepted in the school dining areas. To pay for food, students need to have money added to their online account in advance. Parents are asked to respect the fact that the school does not have money to advance students either lunch money or to meet the cost of late payments for trips. **Prompt payment is vital.**

Students are not obliged to be biometrically registered and, in line with the 'Protection of Freedoms Act 2012', we require your written consent to hold and process their biometric information. Consent is collected electronically via Admissions+. Once consent is given, a Biometric ID will automatically be taken.

If you do not wish to give your consent to this aspect of the system, or your child simply prefers to use a contactless card, we advise that you purchase a lanyard and plastic holder for the card. This enables the student to wear the card, like an ID card, and minimise the risk of it being lost. Lanyards are available from the Parentpay system. A lanyard and holder will be issued, complete with a uniquely programmed contactless card, on the first day in September.

**You will be issued with a registration letter in early July. Please do not register an account until you have this letter.**

The parentpay system is specifically configured so that siblings can be linked on the same account. Please follow the instructions on the system about how to add children to an existing account.



## **BIOMETRIC CONSENT**

Biometric information is information about a person's physical or behavioural characteristics that can be used to identify them, e.g. information from their fingerprint. The school would like to take and process biometric information from your child's fingerprint and use this information for the purpose of providing your child with certain services. This information will be used as part of an automated biometric recognition system. Such a system will store information which digitally represents measurements relating to your child's fingerprint rather than an image of your child's fingerprint and will be used in order to identify or recognise your child when accessing services.

Further information and guidance can be found via the following links:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/protection-of-biometric-information-of-children-in-schools>

### **Biometric Data Consent Form**

You will be asked via Admissions+ if you agree to your child's biometric information (as described above) being used by the school as part of an automated biometric recognition system until your child leaves the school. The school currently only uses the system in the school dining rooms. Any plan to extend the use of the system will be clearly communicated to parents/carers before implementation.

Please note the school will not use the biometric information for any purpose other than that communicated to parents. The school stores the biometric information collected securely in compliance with the Data Protection Act 2018 and does not share this information with the school's supplier of Identity Management Software and will not unlawfully disclose it to any other person. In addition, your child may at any time object or refuse to allow their biometric information to be used even if you have given your consent. It would be appreciated if you could explain this to your child. Should you agree to the processing of your child's biometric information, please note that when he /she leaves the school, or if for some other reason he / she ceases to use the biometric system, biometric data will be deleted.

If you do not wish your child's biometric information to be processed by the school, or your child objects to such processing, we will provide a plastic ID card (first card issued free, replacements are chargeable) that will allow them to access the school canteen and any other systems.



## **CANTEEN FACILITIES**

The school has two canteens on site, which offer plated hot meals at lunchtime, along with a range of sandwiches, hot and cold snacks and a range of drinks. A selection of hot and cold 'grab and go' products are also available, including from the 'Food Truck' on the music quad.

**CUCINA** took over as the school's catering partner from September 2022. Information about their food offer can always be found on the catering page of our school website. There will be regular weekly offers for students, and a number of themed days throughout the year.

As well as a range of 'grab and go' items, students have the opportunity to eat a plated hot meal in school. This can be served, either on a proper plate, with knife and fork, or in a reusable lunchbox, which a child can bring from home. These 'munchboxes' may be taken outside. School provided plates and cutlery must remain in the top canteen.

With an eye on the sustainability agenda, we also made the decision in September 2022 to discontinue the supply of single-use plastic bottles in school. **Every student is now responsible for bringing their own reusable and refillable bottle**, which can be replenished either at the free water fountains, or via the Generation Juice machines in the canteens.

**Some students in our school community suffer from a severe nut allergy. To ensure our school remains safe for these students, nuts are not served as part of any product in our school canteen.**

Parents are asked to support these students by ensuring that other students do NOT bring in any products to school that contain nuts. Even incidental exposure to nuts can trigger a potentially fatal allergic reaction in some students.



## **MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES POLICY**

You should have already received a copy of the school prospectus where comprehensive details of school practices are included. In particular, we would like to draw your attention to the organisation of Modern Foreign Languages at the school.

In line with National Curriculum recommendations for diversification in languages, we teach French, Spanish or German. Students will be allocated to a foreign language prior to beginning their time at the school. **The allocation is made by school staff.**

Only in very exceptional circumstances are we able to consider a preference for a child's language allocation. If you feel there are exceptional circumstances why your child should be allocated to a particular language (e.g. they may already be fluent in French, German or Spanish and you would like them to learn a third language) please let us know by **Friday 12th June 2026**, so we can give consideration to your request. If your son or daughter is already bi-lingual, please consider challenging them to learn a new language. Your request for a specific language must be emailed to our admissions team ([admissions@vynersschool.org.uk](mailto:admissions@vynersschool.org.uk)) and include reasons for your request.

**Absolutely no requests for changes will be considered after the deadline given.**



## **GOOGLE WORKSPACE FOR EDUCATION PERMISSION FORM**

Vyners School utilises Google Workspace for Education for students, teachers and staff. The following services are available to each student and are hosted by Google as part of the Vyners School online presence in Google Workspace for Education:

### **Mail**

A student email account for school use managed by Vyners School IT Dept.

### **Calendar**

A student calendar providing the ability to organise schedules, daily activities, and assignments.

### **Docs, Sheets, Slides**

Word processing, spreadsheet, drawing, and presentation.

### **Homework (Google Guardian)**

You will be sent details regarding Google Guardian and setting up an automated email that alerts you either daily or weekly when a piece of homework has been set.

### **Google Classroom**

Classroom is designed to help teachers create and collect assignments electronically. A Google Drive folder is created for each assignment and for each student in order to help keep everyone organised. Students can easily keep track of what is due on the Assignments page and begin working with just a click. Teachers can quickly see who has or hasn't completed work, and provide direct, real-time feedback to students. Parents use EduLink to keep track of homework assigned and completed.

### **Google Meet**

Meet is a videoconferencing system which will be used in conjunction with Google Classroom.

### **YouTube (restricted access)**

Where there is a requirement for students to view YouTube videos as part of their studies, temporary access may be provided at the discretion of the teacher. Only videos approved by Vyners Staff will be viewable by students on school computers.

### **Guidelines for the responsible use of Google Workspace for Education by students**

- 1. Official Email Address.** All students will be assigned a username@vynersschool.org.uk email account. This account will be considered the student's official email address until such time as the student is no longer enrolled with Vyners School.
- 2. Prohibited Conduct.** Please refer to the ICT Acceptable Use Policy.
- 3. Google Meet:** Students are expected to maintain the same standard of behaviour as they would when in a physical classroom whilst participating in Google Meet sessions. Any students exhibiting inappropriate behaviour will be removed from the session and parents will be contacted. Repeated poor behaviour may result in an appropriate sanction under the Rewards and Consequences Policy. Students are explicitly prohibited from recording, photographing or taking a screenshot of the Google Meet session.
- 4. Access Restriction.** Access to and use of student email and Google Workspace for Education is considered a privilege accorded at the discretion of Vyners School. The school maintains the right to immediately withdraw access to and use of these services (including email) when there is reason to believe that violations of law or school policies have occurred. In such cases, the alleged violation will be referred to a senior member of staff for further investigation and adjudication.



5. **Security.** Vyners School cannot and does not guarantee the security of electronic files located on Google systems. Although Google does have a powerful content filter in place for email, the school cannot guarantee that users will not be exposed to unsolicited information.

6. **Privacy.** The general right of privacy will be extended to the extent possible in the electronic environment. By default, advertising is turned off for Vyners School in Google Workspace for Education. No personal student information is collected for commercial purposes. By signing this permission form, parents/carers are allowing the school to act as their agent for the collection of information within the school context. The school's use of student information is solely for education purposes.

Students should treat electronically stored information in individual files as confidential and private. Users of student email are strictly prohibited from accessing files and information other than their own. The school reserves the right to access Google accounts, including current and archival files, where there is reasonable suspicion that unacceptable use has occurred.

### **Parent Declaration**

I give permission for my child to be assigned a full Vyners Google Workspace for Education account. This means my child will receive an email account, access to Google Docs, Calendar, YouTube\* and Classroom.

I understand that by participating in Google Workspace for Education, information about my child will be collected and stored electronically. I have read the privacy policies associated with use of Google Workspace for Education

[https://workspace.google.com/terms/education\\_privacy/?hl=en-GB](https://workspace.google.com/terms/education_privacy/?hl=en-GB)

\* Only approved videos will be viewable on School Computers.



## **ARBOR Parent Portal ACCESS**

Arbor Parent & Student Portal is a school information platform that can be accessed on any device – PC, laptop, tablet or mobile device – via a web browser or via the free Arbor app. The app is available for Android and iOS devices.

During the enrolment process, an email will be sent to you providing login details which will give you secure online access to view your child's data 24 hours a day via PC, laptop and mobile devices which have an internet connection.

Arbor Portal allows you to view:

- Your personal data
- Attendance and behaviour information for your son or daughter
- Your son or daughter's timetable
- Progress checks
- Behaviour incidents and detentions
- Merit and rewards information
- External examination entries and results

Arbor also enables parents to keep personal contact details up to date.

Full instructions can be found [here](#)

Below are some useful suggestions on use:

1. To login and access the Arbor website, either:

Visit [login.arbor.sc](http://login.arbor.sc)

Or

Visit the link on the school website in the [Parent Zone](#).

2. Please ensure you change your password the first time you login.
3. If you are using a shared computer, please consider carefully whether or not to allow the computer to remember your username and password, as others may be able to access your data.



## **CHROMEBOOK FOR LEARNING SCHEME**

We are delighted to inform you about the 'Chromebooks for Learning Scheme' for Vyners School students joining in September 2026.

Our students' daily lives are filled with technology and they are quick to embrace new developments. The pandemic brought with it a new range of online resources to support learning. We want our students to feel at ease in this dynamic and exciting climate. Chromebooks provide a great vehicle to help our students become responsible digital citizens and lifelong learners. Alongside Google Workspace for education, they enable all our students to have access anytime to information wherever they are.

Whilst we have a supply of chromebooks available in school, they are regrettably limited in number. The 'Chromebooks for Learning Scheme' gives parents the opportunity to guarantee their child individual access to a device. The device may additionally be taken home by students, to facilitate the completion of home learning tasks.

This is an **opt-in** scheme available for all Year 7 students. As a school, we firmly believe in the merits of the scheme and the educational benefits it offers students and expect that parents will want to support this initiative.

The 'Chromebooks for Learning' Scheme offers students access to a dedicated chromebook over a 3 year period. The device will be fully configured for school systems, including being loaded with security software to prevent students accessing any inappropriate sites. The device comes with a full 3 year warranty and is insured against accidental damage.

Please note that the scheme does not include ownership of the device. Parents are buying uninterrupted access to a device during the period of the scheme. Any problems with the chromebook will be rectified through the issue of a temporary replacement, whilst the original device is being fixed.

Parents may choose between a number of payment plans. We hope this offers families the maximum amount of financial flexibility, thus ensuring as many students as possible have the opportunity to take part in the scheme.

For 2026, the Acer 311 C723 chromebook is our recommended device. This has been selected by the school due to its robust design. It is built to US military standards for toughness as well as being light to carry. It is designed for student use in and out of the classroom.

### **SAFETY**

The chromebooks will come with Smoothwall Safeguarding and Content Filtering. The Smoothwall content filter and safeguarding application provides a cloud based web filter that appropriately filters and blocks students from harmful or inappropriate content when logged in with their school accounts and monitors for any potential safeguarding issues. Parents should note that Smoothwall is not active when users log in with personal accounts..

### **FAQs**

#### **Why have you chosen chromebooks?**

At Vyners we have been using chromebooks since 2014. All our students are familiar with chromebooks and Google Workspace for Education. A chromebook looks like a laptop in appearance but operates in a very different way with students accessing services and apps online. The chromebook operating system is produced by Google who provide a wealth of apps and services which are specifically designed to support students in education.



Chromebook devices boot-up in a matter of seconds and have a battery life that lasts up to 8 hours, depending on use. School owned chromebooks are managed centrally by our IT Support Team to ensure that access is safe and secure. Internet content is filtered for inappropriate content to ensure students can access everything they need for their school work.

**Chromebook Features:**

- Less than 8 seconds to boot up
- Long battery life
- Simple technology
- Easy student teacher workflow
- Large numbers of computers can be managed centrally
- Excellent collaboration tools
- Works seamlessly with Google Workspace for Education and other cloud based applications which all of our students and teachers already use extensively

**What technical support will there be for students?**

The School IT Support Service will be able to help resolve many technical issues but one of the major advantages of the chromebook is that it rarely goes wrong. Devices which fail under the 'Chromebook for Learning Scheme' will be immediately substituted with a temporary replacement, whilst the original device is being repaired.

**Are there any chromebook guides available?**

We will make sure all of our students receive the teaching input to get them up and running with their new chromebooks when they are issued.

**Will my child be able to install apps/download their own content onto the chromebook?**

For school work and during school time your child will log in to the chromebook with their Vyners login. As per the schools Acceptable use policy, students cannot use their school domain to store personal data, music videos etc.

After hours when not doing school work then your child is free to login with a personal Google account and can then install Apps. These Apps would only be available on the personal account. Students will not be allowed to login to chromebooks with their own account during school hours.

The school advises parents to make sure they have systems in place at home to monitor their child's digital activity.

**Who owns the chromebook?**

The 'Chromebooks for Learning' Scheme is designed to give students uninterrupted access to a device. It does not offer parents ownership of the device itself.

**Could we buy a cheaper chromebook and opt out of the Vyners Scheme?**

Yes. Parents who wish to buy their own chromebook may do so. We only ask that we are advised of the model before purchase to ensure that the chromebook has Google support. An additional charge will be levied to install the necessary access licence on the device (without which, the device will not connect to the school IT network). Parents who purchase their own chromebook are solely liable for any damage or loss to the device. The current price for the Google licence is £32.40.

**Why can't the school provide these devices for free?**

With ever tightening budgets the school has a limited amount of funding for ICT in school and this primarily pays for the maintenance of our school network. It is also logistically impossible to store and manage enough chromebooks to cover our entire school community (1500 students).



### **What happens if the chromebook is lost, stolen or damaged?**

Students need to look after their chromebook as if it were their own property. Whilst the scheme covers repair in the event of accidental damage, cover is not provided in the event of wilful damage or deliberate negligence. In such cases, the device will not be replaced but parents will still need to complete paying for the device (if they have not done so already). Should a parent / child suffer loss or damage to a device through reasons outside their control (e.g. third party theft or damage by another student), please contact the school to discuss a replacement device.

### **What about safety to and from school?**

Since starting the scheme, we have had no reports of any issues with students carrying chromebooks to and from home, however, it is sensible to reduce the risk of theft through some common sense measures; students should keep their chromebook in their bag on the way to and from school, both for road safety and crime prevention reasons. This is advisable if travelling by bus or on foot.

### **How will inappropriate use of the chromebook at school be dealt with?**

Students, with the support of their parents, will be required to sign up to a set of 'Chromebook Rules' which set out some simple rules to make things go smoothly. Some of the rules concern management (e.g. "I will bring the chromebook to school every day, charged") and some will be about classroom behaviour (e.g. "I will stop using the chromebook when my teacher asks me to"), with the overall intention of creating a way of operating that all students, parents and staff understand and agree with. Any child that misuses the device in school will have increased restrictions applied to their device.

### **What is Vyners doing to reduce e-safety problems with the chromebooks?**

Vyners' School has a very effective web filtering system and all devices attached to our network go through this web filter. Vyners School will be actively monitoring students' chromebooks while in school. We will be able to look at web filter logs should an issue become apparent. Students are already taught the importance of e-Safety through PSHE, IT lessons and assemblies. This will be continually reinforced.

The Smoothwall Cloud platform will only monitor whilst your child is logged into their school account. It will be your own responsibility to ensure appropriate use whilst using personal accounts.

### **Where will my child store the chromebooks when not required in lessons?**

Students will place the chromebook in their bag during break/lunch. If students have access to a locker, this can also be used to store the chromebook when not in use.

### **What is the cost of the device via the scheme?**

This year's costs have not yet been finalised but the current pricing is as such:

Full cost upfront - £407.48

Cost payable over 12 months £415.95 (i.e. £34.66 per month)

Cost payable over 24 months £424.90 (i.e. £17.70 per month)

Cost payable over 30 Months £429.27 (i.e. £14.31 per month)

### **What happens at the end of the scheme?**

Parents will be given an opportunity to enter into a fresh agreement for a new device.

### **My child is eligible for free school meals, and I cannot afford to participate in the scheme**

Families in this situation are encouraged to contact the school, in confidence, to discuss their needs. Funding is available to support families in this situation. Please contact our senior leader with responsibility for Pupil Premium - Mr Millard-Healy (amillard-healy@vynersschool.org.uk)

### **Will my child be denied access to a device if I do not provide them with a chromebook?**

No. The school has chromebook devices on site and will issue one to any child that does not have their own device. This device is issued to the child for that lesson only, and will not be theirs to take home. Parents are advised, under these circumstances, to ensure that their son or daughter has Google Classroom access at home via an alternative device (e.g. standard PC or laptop).



**What are the pros and cons of each of the choices open to me?**

Option	Participate in the scheme	Purchase your child's own chromebook outright	Use a school provided device
Pros	<p>Guaranteed access to a chromebook throughout the duration of the scheme, including at home and during holidays</p> <p>Ongoing IT support is available</p> <p>Coverage for accidental loss and damage, and equipment failure (excluding power lead)</p>	<p>Lower overall cost</p>	<p>No cost to parents</p>
Cons	<p>Parents do not own the device</p>	<p>Parents are wholly liable for any loss or damage to the device. No loan device whilst original is sent away for repair.</p> <p>No ongoing IT support is available</p>	<p>Student has no access to a device outside of timetabled lessons.</p>



## **ICT ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY**

The school facilitates access to computers and Internet access to help student learning. Each time a student logs on to the Vyners School network, they are required to agree to certain rules which keep everyone safe and help us be fair to others. Where the word computer is used it may refer to any desktop computer, laptop, macbook or Chromebook:

They are listed below:

1. I will use the computer responsibly and I will not change settings or deface the computer in any way.
2. I will only access the system with my own login and password, which I will keep secret.
3. I will log-off when leaving the computer.
4. I will not access other people's files.
5. I will only use the computers for school learning.
6. I will only email people I know, or my teacher has approved. Years 7-10 will be allowed internal email access only, Years 11-13 internal and external email access.
7. The messages I send will be polite and responsible.
8. I will not give out my home address or telephone number, or arrange to meet someone unless my parent, carer or teacher has given permission.
9. I will report any unpleasant material or messages sent to me and I understand that my report will be confidential and could help protect other students and myself.
10. I understand that the school may check my computer files and may monitor the PC for inappropriate use and improper internet sites I visit.
11. I understand that any inappropriate use may result in action being taken under the Rewards and Consequences policy.
12. I will not eat or drink whilst in an IT room or using the computers around the school
13. I understand that the list above forms only part of the School's 'Acceptable Use Policy' and that by signing below I agree to all of the terms of the 'Acceptable Use Policy'.

### **Student declaration**

I understand and will abide by the provisions and conditions of this agreement. I understand that any violations of the above provisions may result in action being taken under the Rewards and Consequences Policy and the removal of my privileges. I also agree to report any misuse of the system to a staff member. Misuse may come in many forms but may be viewed as any messages sent or received that indicate or suggest pornography, unethical or illegal activities, racism, sexism, inappropriate language, extremist views and any act likely to cause offence or other issues described above.

### **Parent or Carer declaration**

As the parent or carer, I have read this agreement and understand that access to electronic information services is designed for educational purposes. I understand that, whilst the Internet service provider operates a filtered service, it is impossible for Vyners School to restrict access to all controversial materials and I will not hold the school responsible for materials acquired on the network. I also agree to report any misuse of the system to the school. I give my permission (via Admissions+) to Vyners School to permit my child access to electronic information services.



## **PRIVACY NOTICE – DATA PROTECTION ACT 2018 – MARCH 2026**

Under Data Protection Law, individuals have a right to be informed about how the School uses any personal data that we hold about them. We comply with this right by providing 'privacy notices' (sometimes called 'fair processing notices') to individuals where we are processing their personal data.

This privacy notice explains how we collect, store and use personal data about our **students**. It is issued in hard copy upon first admission to the school. Thereafter, updates are posted on the school website.

Vyners School is part of Vanguard Learning Trust, which is a registered 'data controller' for the purposes of Data Protection law. The Trust has a central Data Protection Policy, a copy of which can be obtained from the Trust website ([www.vlt.org.uk](http://www.vlt.org.uk))

Each School within the Trust has appointed a Data Protection Lead (DPL) who is your first point of contact for any queries or subject access requests.

The DPL for Vyners School is – Miss Karen Williams

The Trust is also required to appoint a **Data Protection Officer**. Your DPO is:

Miss Karen Williams, Business Manager, [kwilliams@vynersschool.org.uk](mailto:kwilliams@vynersschool.org.uk), 01895 234342

### **The personal data we hold**

Personal data that we may collect, use, store and share (when appropriate) about students includes, but is not restricted to:

- Student, parent and emergency contact details, contact preferences, date of birth, identification documents
- Results of internal assessments and externally set tests, including progress checks
- Curriculum records, such as options choices.
- Characteristics, such as ethnic background, religion, eligibility for free school meals, or special educational needs
- Exclusion / behaviour information
- Details of any medical conditions, including physical and mental health.
- Attendance information
- Safeguarding information
- Details of any support received, including care packages, plans and support providers
- Photographs and video footage
- CCTV images captured in school

We may also hold data about students that we have received from other organisations, including previous schools, local authorities and the Department for Education.

### **Why we use this data**

We use this data to:



- Support student learning
- Monitor and report on student progress
- Provide appropriate pastoral care and protect student welfare
- To keep individuals within our school community as safe as possible
- Facilitate student participation in extra-curricular and enrichment activities
- Assess the quality of our services
- Administer admissions waiting lists
- Comply with the law regarding data sharing

## Our legal basis for using this data

We only collect and use students' personal data when the law allows us to. Most commonly, we process it where:

- We need to comply with a legal obligation
- We need it to perform an official task in the public interest (i.e. it is needed to facilitate the effective education of your child)

Less commonly, we may also process students' personal data in situations where:

- We have obtained consent to use it in a certain way. We may seek that consent in writing, electronically or verbally and, in some instances, we will seek joint consent from yourself and your child
- We need to protect the individual's vital interests (or someone else's interests). **Parents are advised that CCTV footage may be used as evidence as part of an investigation into poor student behaviour.**

Some of the reasons listed above for collecting and using personal information about you overlap, and there may be several grounds which justify the school's use of your data.

Where you have provided us with consent to use your data, you may withdraw this consent at any time by contacting your DPL in writing (or by email).

## Collecting this information

While the majority of information we collect about students is mandatory, there is some information that can be provided voluntarily. Whenever we seek to collect information from you or your child, we make it clear whether providing it is mandatory or optional. If it is mandatory, we will explain the possible implications of not complying.

## Right to withdraw consent

Where we have got permission to use your data, this consent may be withdrawn at any time by contacting Miss Williams.

Parents are advised that, under the legislation, students have a legal right to control their own personal data once they are old enough to understand their rights. This is usually around age 14 years, but will vary from person to person.

The school is conscious of the need to balance the rights of students, with the necessity to ensure that parents remain informed about their child's wellbeing and educational progress. Students continue to be



legal minors (regardless of these rights), and the school will not allow students to use the Data Protection Act to withhold information which it is reasonable (or indeed legally necessary) for a parent to receive.

## How we store this data

We keep personal information about students while they are attending our school. In order to continue to comply with our legal obligations, we will retain some of the information once your child has left.

Information will be destroyed in accordance with the Information and Records Management Society's Record Retention Guidelines (a copy of which is available on the Trust website and may be requested from the Business Manager).

## Data sharing

We do not share information about students with any third party without consent unless the law and our policies allow us to do so.

Where it is legally required, or necessary (and it complies with data protection law) we may share personal information about students with:

- The **London Borough of Hillingdon** – to meet our legal obligations to share certain information with it, such as safeguarding concerns, school admissions, student exclusions and student destination data at the end of Year 11 and 13.
- The **Department for Education** and **Ofsted** - to meet our legal obligations to share certain information with it in relation to student progress and to facilitate the statutory inspection of state schools.
- Those with parental responsibility for the student and any other nominated family representatives.
- **Vaccinations UK** and the **NHS** in order that the national vaccination programme for school age children is delivered effectively.
- **Arbor** - our management information system. The school uses its texting service to either communicate whole school emergency messages (e.g. about school closures or lockdowns) or individual / small group messages.
- Other educational providers or third-party organisations - to facilitate the provision of extracurricular activities and cross-school activities. This is particularly the case for students studying post-16 across more than one school.
- Other schools within Vanguard Learning Trust, where data sharing enables us to support extra-curricular activities or the provision of educational provision.
- **Examining bodies** – in order to facilitate the entry of our students into public exams.
- Suppliers and service providers – particularly **ParentPay**, **Biostore/IRIS** and **Arbor** to enable them to provide the service we have contracted them for, such as the provision of our cashless catering and management information system. **London Grid for Learning (LGFL)** supplies our free school meal eligibility checker.
- **School Cloud** - our external support provider for remote Parents' Evenings.
- **Applicaa Ltd**, who supply the online portal we use to collect data about students joining the school (Admissions+).
- **EduFOCUS Ltd**, who supply the online portal we use to organise school trips and visits (Evolve).



- **PracticePal** who provide the electronic platform which enables us to timetable (and mark student attendance at) peripatetic music lessons.
- **Place 2 Be**, which provides mental health support to students.
- **PupilProgress.com**, which enables the school to benchmark year 11 attainment data in maths and English against the national cohort.
- Our Payroll Bureau (**Juniper Education**) and **HMRC** – to facilitate payments to students who undertake paid work for us
- The **Health and Safety Executive** – to comply with our statutory obligation in relation to accident and RIDDOR reporting
- Security organisations – in particular **EST** who service our CCTV system
- The emergency services (Police, Fire, Ambulance), where information needs to be shared for safeguarding reasons, for the purposes of crime prevention or to provide assistance to a student in an emergency.

From time to time, we will recommend online tools and apps in order to support your learning. These include, but are not limited to: Unifrog, Tassomai, Dr Frost Maths, Pixl apps, Kerboodle, Sparx Learning, Times Tables Rockstars Maths, Adobe Creative Cloud (for photography and media students), Bedrock Learning, Seneca Learning, Collins Connect, Educake, ExamPro, Oliver, Oxplore and Eventbrite. In order to create an account for you, we may need to share your child's full name, tutorial group and school email address. We will seek your consent before sharing any further information.

The School uses G Suite for Education (from Google) to support the delivery of education. Students will be routinely issued with a Google email account, access to Google Calendar, restricted access to YouTube and access to Google Classroom. The Privacy Notices for this suite of products can be separately accessed via the following link:

[https://workspace.google.com/terms/education\\_privacy/?hl=en-GB](https://workspace.google.com/terms/education_privacy/?hl=en-GB)

The School will also routinely put information into the public domain in order to congratulate students on their individual achievements and to demonstrate the high standards of education being delivered at Vyners School. Such information may include photos included in the school prospectus and other marketing information, pictures of learning taking place around the school, references on the schools Facebook / twitter accounts, information supplied via regular school newsletters, names in concert programmes etc. The School will, in all cases, remain conscious of its safeguarding responsibilities and will not share any personal information which will put a child at risk.

### Photographs / film footage of students

The School will routinely take and retain a photo of every student in the school. This will be stored securely on our management information system (**Arbor**) and made available internally to staff to facilitate the delivery of education.

The photos are taken and supplied by the School's external photographer – currently **Tempest Photography**.

In order to facilitate the external assessment of students in some subjects (particularly drama and performing arts), the school is required to take film footage of assessed performance, and to supply this to exam boards for moderation.



The School respects the right of parents, and students to object to photographs being used to promote the school. All parents will be asked to specifically let us know whether they are happy for photos of their child to be used for publicity / marketing purposes, as part of the admissions process for joining the school.

Separate, and specific, consent is sought about including all students in the whole school photo – an important Vyners tradition that has been in place since the school opened in 1959.

Under the Data Protection Act 2018, students over the age of 13 have the right to consent in their own right to the processing of their data, including photographs. A separate privacy notice has been prepared for students.

Whilst students over the age of 13 have the right to consent to their photos being taken and used, the School respects that some parents feel strongly on this issue. Where parents and students take a different view on whether photographs can be taken and used to promote the school, the presumption will be in favour of photos not being taken or used. In such a situation, parents and students will be asked to discuss the issue at home.

Where photographs are being taken in school, particularly for future marketing, students will always be given the verbal opportunity, on the day, to not be in a photo.

## Google Meet

The school's preferred video meeting platform is Google Meet.

Whilst the school no longer records live lessons, the use of Google meet is still occasionally used for conducting remote meetings and events with students. The Schools usual standards of behaviour operate in Google Meet sessions and rewards and consequences may be given remotely.

All Google Meets will either be supervised in school or will be subject to unannounced drop-ins from a member of the Senior Leadership Team.

Students, staff and parents are explicitly prohibited from recording, photographing or taking a screenshot of any Google Meet session. Staff or students found to be doing so may be subject to behaviour or disciplinary sanctions.

## Biometric information

The School collects and holds biometric information on students in connection with its cashless catering system. For students in Years 7-11, specific consent is sought from parents to hold this information when a child is admitted to the school. For 6th Form students, joint consent is sought from parents and students during 6th form enrolment. In all cases, if parents or students prefer that the school does not hold this information, we can supply an alternative method of identifying students. Please let Miss Williams or one of the ICT technicians know.

## National Pupil Database

We are required to provide information about students to the Department for Education as part of statutory data collections such as the school census.



Some of this information is then stored in the National Pupil Database (NPD), which is owned and managed by the Department and provides evidence on school performance to inform research. The database is held electronically so it can easily be turned into statistics. The information is securely collected from a range of sources including schools, local authorities and exam boards. The Department for Education may share information from the NPD with other organisations which promote children's education or wellbeing in England. Such organisations must agree to strict terms and conditions about how they will use the data.

For more information, see the Department's webpage on how it collects and shares research data. You can also contact the Department for Education with any further questions about the NPD.

### Youth support services

Once our students reach the age of 13, we are legally required to pass on certain information about them to the London Borough of Hillingdon, as it has legal responsibilities regarding the education or training of 13-19 year-olds.

This information enables it to provide youth support services, post-16 education and training services, and careers advisers.

Parents/carers can contact the DPL to request that we only pass the individual's name, address and date of birth to the London Borough of Hillingdon in connection with these services. This right passes to the child once they reach the age of 16 years.

### Transferring data internationally

Where we transfer personal data to a country or territory outside the European Economic Area, we will do so in accordance with Data Protection Law.

### Parents and students' rights regarding personal data

Individuals have a right to make a '**subject access request**' to gain access to personal information that the school holds about them.

Parents/carers can make a request with respect to their child's data where the child is not considered mature enough to understand their rights over their own data (usually under the age of 13), or where the child has provided consent. Where parents wish to make a request for a child over the age of 13 years, the School will routinely ask for evidence of the child's consent to provide this data.

The Trust reserves the right to ask an individual making a subject access request to verify their identity before such a request is actioned. This may involve a request to provide photographic ID, proof of address or proof of relationship to the data subject. Proof of identity is not a mandatory requirement and the school will take a pragmatic approach in deciding whether such evidence is reasonably necessary.

The School has prepared a Privacy Notice for students, making them aware of their data protection rights. This document is downloadable from the School website.



Parents also have the right to make a subject access request with respect to any personal data the school holds about them personally.

If you make a subject access request, and if we do hold information about you or your child, we will:

- Give you a description of it
- Tell you why we are holding and processing it, and how long we will keep it for
- Explain where we got it from, if not from you or your child
- Tell you who it has been, or will be, shared with
- Let you know whether any automated decision-making is being applied to the data, and any consequences of this
- Give you a copy of the information in an intelligible form

Individuals also have the right for their personal information to be transmitted electronically to another organisation in certain circumstances.

If you would like to make a request please contact the DPL.

Parents in maintained schools are entitled to a copy of their child's educational records under the Education (Pupil Information) (England) Regulations 2005. This provision does not apply to academy schools. Vanguard Learning Trust however considers it is in the best interest of students to ensure that parents are well informed about the educational experience and progress of their child. Information will therefore be provided to parents, or those with parental responsibility, on a voluntary basis, so long as such disclosure does not otherwise conflict with the provisions of the DPA 2018, including the subject access rights of the student themselves.

## Other rights

Under Data Protection law, individuals have certain rights regarding how their personal data is used and kept safe, including the right to:

- Object to the use of personal data if it would cause, or is causing, damage or distress
- Prevent it being used to send direct marketing
- Object to decisions being taken by automated means (by a computer or machine, rather than by a person)
- In certain circumstances, have inaccurate personal data corrected, deleted or destroyed, or restrict processing
- Claim compensation for damages caused by a breach of the data protection regulations.

To exercise any of these rights, please contact the DPL.

## Complaints

We take any complaints about our collection and use of personal information very seriously. If you think that our collection or use of personal information is unfair, misleading or inappropriate, or have any other concern about our data processing, please raise this with us in the first instance. To make a complaint, please contact our Data Protection Officer (Miss Karen Williams).

If you are unsatisfied after speaking to our data protection officer, you may raise an official complaint via the Vanguard Learning Trust Complaints Policy (available on the Trust website – [www.vlt.org.uk](http://www.vlt.org.uk)).



If you remain dissatisfied after the complaints process is concluded, you can also make a complaint to the Information Commissioner's Office:

- Report a concern online at <https://ico.org.uk/concerns/>
- Call 0303 123 1113
- Or write to: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF

*This notice is based on the Department for Education's model privacy notice for students, amended for staff and to reflect the way we use data in this school.*



## **PHOTOGRAPHS / FILM FOOTAGE OF STUDENTS**

The school will routinely take and retain a photo of every student in the school. This will be stored securely on our management information system (Arbor) and made available internally to staff to facilitate the delivery of education.

The photos are taken and supplied by the school's external photographer – currently **Tempest Photography**.

In order to facilitate the external assessment of students in some subjects (particularly drama and performing arts), the school is required to take film footage of assessed performance, and to supply this to exam boards for moderation.

The school respects the right of parents, and students to object to photographs being used to promote the school. All parents will be asked to specifically let us know whether they are happy for photos of their child to be used for publicity / marketing purposes, as part of the admissions process for joining the school.

Under the Data Protection Act 2018, students over the age of 13 have the right to consent in their own right to the processing of their data, including photographs. A separate privacy notice has been prepared for students.

Whilst students over the age of 13 have the right to consent to their photos being taken and used, the school respects that some parents feel strongly on this issue. Where parents and students take a different view on whether photographs can be taken and used to promote the school, the presumption will be in favour of photos not being taken or used. In such a situation, parents and students will be asked to discuss the issue at home.

Parents will be asked to indicate, via Admissions+, whether they consent to the following:

- whether photos of their child may be used for wider school publicity purposes
- whether they consent to their child being in the whole school photo. This is taken every few years, put on public display and offered out to all parents for purchase
- whether videos of their child may be used for school publicity purposes
- whether videos of their child may be used to support the learning of others

Where photographs are being taken in school, particularly for future marketing, students will always be given the verbal opportunity, on the day, to not be in a photo.

### **Consent to use student photographs for wider marketing / promotional purposes**

I have read the information above regarding how my child's photograph will routinely be used. I understand that the school wishes to use photographs and video to support the learning of others, and to promote the school more widely. I understand that I have a right to object to such use, on behalf of my child.

I have discussed my child's wishes with them and have completed the relevant sections on the electronic data collection form informing the school of our wishes in relation to both photos and video footage.



## **UNIFORM POLICY**

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### **OUR SCHOOL AIMS**

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#### **MISSION STATEMENT**

At Vyners we aspire to be an outstanding school in every sense of the word and our aim is that we can be confident that hand on heart 100% of our students get a better deal here than they would in any other school. We believe in a relentless focus on high achievement and high expectations in all areas of the life of the school.

At our core is an understanding that every individual has the opportunity and responsibility to impact positively on the lives of others; that every individual in our community is unique and has gifts and talents that should be celebrated at every opportunity.

#### **VALUES**

Our community begins with its set of values because they say, "This is what is important to us and this is what we want to see and feel in our school." Our values shape our policies and can be summarised as **CARE**.

- Community
- Aspiration
- Respect
- Endeavour

#### **THE VYNERS 10**

The Vyners 10 reminds us of what our community expectations are:

1. I am proud of who I am and what I have achieved today.
2. I actively participate in lessons and school activities.
3. I can, if I think I can, and I strive to do my best even when learning is difficult.
4. I value others and understand that our individuality makes our community stronger.
5. I share in and celebrate everyone's success.
6. I do as I'm asked, the first time I'm asked.
7. I am always in the right place at the right time, doing the right thing.
8. I understand that school is a formal environment; I dress and behave accordingly.
9. I attend regularly and arrive on time with the correct equipment.
10. I am proud of our school, helping to look after it and create a positive learning environment.




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## UNIFORM POLICY STATEMENT

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It is our policy that all children should wear the Vyners School uniform with pride when attending school, on their way to and from school or when participating in school-organised events outside normal school hours.

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## UNIFORM POLICY AIMS

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Our policy is based on the notion that a school uniform:

- promotes a sense of pride in the school
- engenders a feeling of community and belonging
- is practical and smart
- identifies the students with the school
- ensures students feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance
- is regarded as suitable, and good value for money, by most parents
- has been designed with health and safety in mind
- is inclusive at all levels – socially, culturally and religiously

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## CLOTHING LIST

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### STUDENTS IN YEARS 7-11

A range of uniform items is available from the following suppliers:

Beat School Uniforms 116, The Parade High Street Watford WD17 1BD  Tel: 0844 879 7288  <a href="http://www.beatschooluniforms.co.uk">www.beatschooluniforms.co.uk</a>	Uniform 4 Kids (Pullens) 48-50 Church Road Stanmore HA7 4AH  Tel 020 8954 3850  <a href="http://www.uniform4kids.com">www.uniform4kids.com</a>
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Parents are advised **not** to buy items from other, non-approved, suppliers. The School will continue to issue consequences to students who are wearing the wrong uniform, even if those items were purchased in good faith from other suppliers.

The school has paid careful regard to the statutory guidance issued in 2022 by the Department for Education on school uniform provision, and the new guidance expected to take effect in September 2026. A number of changes have been made to the policy for September 2026 in the light of this new guidance. Clarity has been provided on where items are compulsory/ optional and where items can be purchased from non-specialist suppliers.

In response to previous Government guidance, the school established a Facebook page that operates to provide a forum for the sale or donation of good quality second hand uniform. The page can be accessed



via this link [\[here\]](#). There is also a supply of second hand uniform held in school. Please contact one of our Family Liaison Officers, in confidence, if the school can help with the supply of second hand uniform.

If, for any reason, it is felt necessary for a student to wear anything other than specified uniform, he/she should bring a note asking permission to do so before it is worn.

All clothing and belongings should be clearly marked with the student's name. This enables mislaid items to be quickly returned to their owner. The school regularly disposes of unclaimed and unnamed lost property items.

## 1. OUTDOOR CLOTHING

- a. The school blazer must be worn by students at all times including journeys to and from school.
- b. The school tie should be worn at all times, including to and from school.
- c. Other outdoor clothing should be restricted to a plain raincoat, overcoat or anorak. For road safety, detachable fluorescent bands or strips are strongly encouraged on dark mornings and evenings. Hoodies or coats with logos are not permitted.
- d. If a scarf is required, it should be in the school colours of plain bottle green or black.
- e. It is recommended that parents of cyclists insist that students use fluorescent arm bands and helmets.

## 2. INDOOR CLOTHING

	ALL STUDENTS	Compulsory item ?	To be purchased from official stockists ?
a.	The school blazer must be worn in school by all students	Y	Y
b.	The school tie must be worn by all students. <b>The design of the tie will vary depending on which tutorial/house students belong.</b> When tied, the school logo should be clearly visible beneath the knot. Parents of transferring Year 6-7 students will be informed of their child's tutorial at the New Parents' Meeting in July. For midterm admissions, parents will be informed on confirmation of accepting a place in the school.	Y	Y
c.	Plain white shirt or blouse with a collar suitable for a tie in non-transparent fabric (not Aertex, cheesecloth, etc.). Shirts must be tucked into the waistband of the skirt/trousers and all buttons should be done up, including the top button. They should have either long sleeves or short sleeves, but must not be sleeveless, and there should be no trimmings. Vests or T-shirts worn under shirts/blouses should be plain white. A clean shirt/blouse should be available for any official school function.	Y	N



d.	<p>Pullovers are not essential as the buildings are always well heated.</p> <p>Branded school pullovers are available from our uniform stockists.</p> <p><u>ALTERNATIVE</u> - parents may also purchase a pullover without the school logo. Such pullovers must be mid grey in colour, and have a V neck and long sleeves. It must be a knitted (not sweatshirt) type material. There should be no visible branding.</p>	N	N
e.	<p>Shoes should be plain black, flat or lace-up styles, with closed toes and heels. Canvas plimsolls, ankle boots, 'Kicker' style boots, Vans style leather plimsolls or black leather trainers are not allowed. Training shoes may only be worn during PE or games activities, or when a Year Leader has agreed their use for special medical reasons when a doctor's note will be required. Boots may be worn to and from school in the winter, but not around the school buildings and such boots should not have hardened toe-caps or studded soles. Shoe soles may not exceed 1cm and heel height may not exceed 5cms when measured at the back of the heel. Because of slippery staircases and the particular danger of accidents in practical rooms and laboratories, all sandals, open front or slingback style shoes are not permitted. Stiletto heels are never acceptable.</p>	Y	N
<b>EITHER:</b>			
f.	<p>Plain black trousers of worsted or Terylene or similar fabric. Trousers should be smart, suit-style and have a waistband. They must be worn around the waist and not any lower. Extremes of style must not be worn. They should not be tight-fitting around the legs. Similarly, they should not be 'drain-pipe', flared or 'boot-cut' in style.</p> <p>Jeans must never be worn.</p>	Y	N
	<b>OR:</b>		
	<p>Pleated school skirt of approximately knee length in plain dark bottle green to match the blazer. The skirt must be of the agreed style and should not be folded or rolled over at the top.</p>	Y	Y
g.	<p>Tights or socks should be worn. Tights should be of a plain style in black. If socks are worn, they should be plain white ankle socks (not trainer socks). If trousers are worn, socks should be plain black or dark grey.</p>	Y	N

### 3. PHYSICAL EDUCATION CLOTHING

		Compulsory item ?	To be purchased from official stockists ?
a.	Hooded top – bottle green/scarlet/white panels, embroidered with school logo*	N (highly recommended)	Y
b.	Sports trousers <b>OR</b> leggings	N	N



	<p>Students may wear sports trousers or sports leggings <u>underneath</u> their shorts / skort during the colder winter months. This is not a compulsory item of PE kit and students will only be allowed to wear a product designed specifically for sports use. Should parents choose to purchase this item, the school strongly recommends that this garment is purchased via one of the official stockists, who stock a suitable product both in a 'Vyners' branded form, and unbranded.</p> <p>Students who choose to wear leggings which are not official sports leggings <b>must</b> wear a pair of shorts or a skort over the top. This preserves the dignity of students when unbranded leggings are made of material which is too thin.</p>		
c.	Sports Top – bottle green/scarlet/white panels, embroidered with school logo*	Y	Y
d.	<p>Shorts <b>OR</b> Skort– bottle green/scarlet/white panels</p> <p><u>ALTERNATIVE</u> - parents may purchase plain bottle green <u>unbranded</u> shorts / skorts. These must be designated sportswear (not day shorts) in a breathable fabric. They should be loose in style, and of a reasonable length to preserve the dignity of students.</p>	Y	N
e.	Sports Socks – plain bottle green football socks (available from our suppliers) or plain white sports socks	Y	N
f.	Trainers	Y	N
g.	Football boots (suitable for grass). NB - specific astro boots are <u>not</u> required	Y (if taught football or rugby)	N
h.	Shin pads and mouthguard	Y	N

\* Option to have initials printed on right breast in white

All PE clothing, including boots and trainers, should be clearly named both on the inside and outside of the garments (initials not sufficient) in order to enable the PE staff to identify misplaced kit easily.

PE kit must be kept in an appropriate sports bag and labelled clearly. All kit must be taken home regularly to be washed.

#### 4. OTHER ITEMS OF CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT

- Jewellery. This may not be worn apart from a wrist watch. If ears are pierced then only one small plain gold or silver coloured stud may be worn in either one or each ear lobe. No sparkles or coloured studs are allowed. No other piercings are allowed, including, but not limited to, piercings in the nose, eyebrow, tongue, lips etc. Earrings and watches must be removed for PE or covered with tape. The school can accept no responsibility for losses of jewellery. Students will be asked to remove any unacceptable jewellery immediately or be placed into a C4 internal exclusion until such time as it can be removed. If any items of jewellery are confiscated from a student 3 times, the student will receive a C4 for deliberate defiance.



- b. Every student will require a sturdy carrying bag or rucksack to ensure that books, which are the property of the school, are not damaged when taken home for homework. (Students will be held responsible for the good order and care of school books and will be required to replace any books which may be lost or damaged). Cyclists should ensure that they have a safe and adequate place to carry their bags whilst riding.
- c. Those students who rent a school locker are strongly advised to have a sturdy key ring on which to store the key. Locker keys are, by their nature, small and can be easily lost. Lost keys must be replaced at a cost of £5 per key.

## **5. ADJUSTMENT TO SCHOOL UNIFORM IN HOT WEATHER**

The school recognises that extremes of temperature necessitates that our uniform policy be relaxed on occasion. The general principles that the school will adopt are detailed below. The precise arrangements to be adopted in any circumstance will be decided on a case by case basis, and will be based on the forecast weather conditions.

- In all cases, students will be required to come to school at 8.30am in full school uniform, including blazer and tie. This enables the school to verify the identity of all young people coming onto site at the start of the day.
- From morning break onwards, students may be allowed to remove their blazers in classrooms.
- As the temperatures rise during the day, students may also be allowed to remove their tie.
- Skirts must remain at the regulated length (ie at, or just above) the knee
- Closed toe school shoes must continue to be worn. Sandals will never be permissible

The school will always clearly communicate what relaxations to the uniform policy are being allowed on any given day. Any infringements outside the communicated rules will continue to be sanctioned in line with our Behaviour Policy.

## **6. HAIR STYLES**

Extremes of hairstyle are not acceptable. These include unnatural hair dye, shaved heads, Mohicans or shaven patterns or lines, including those made in partings. Hair must be one natural colour and a "grade 2" haircut is the shortest allowed. No lines or shapes are permitted to be shaved into eyebrows. Any decision regarding 'extreme' haircuts will be left to the discretion of the Headteacher.

## **7. MAKE-UP AND NAILS**

Make-up, false eyelashes and nail varnish (including Shellac, gel and nail extensions) should not be worn. Students found to be wearing artificial nails / nail varnish will be asked to immediately remove ordinary nail varnish and/or cut nails to an acceptable length. Where nails need specialist removal, this will need to be done by the following day and the student will be placed into an immediate C4 internal exclusion until such time as they are removed.



## 8. LOST PROPERTY

This is located in Student Services. Please ensure that all items are clearly labelled. Students will be notified when named items are in lost property. It is their responsibility to collect items. Items not collected, or not named, will be disposed of every half term.

## 9. SIXTH FORM UNIFORM

All Sixth Form students should wear business style clothing when attending school, on their way to and from school or when participating in school-organised events outside normal school hours.

All students must wear smart trousers (suit or chino style) or a suitable length skirt. A collar must be worn at all times, i.e. a shirt or blouse or a plain top and blazer. If a jumper is worn then it should be plain and worn over a collared shirt or blouse or under a blazer. No sweatshirts, hoodies, denim or trainers are permitted. Lanyards must be visible at all times when walking around school and in all lessons unless a practical lesson warrants removal.

### Practical Uniform

Some students in the Sixth Form take part in practical subjects, for which wearing formal dress is not appropriate. The dress code in such subjects is as follows:

<b>PE</b>	<p>On days where they have theory lessons, students must wear the normal Sixth Form 'business' uniform (see above).</p> <p>For practical lessons, students should wear :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plain black (ie unbranded) leggings/jogging bottoms <b>OR</b> official PE trousers / leggings (available from an official stockist)</li> <li>• A plain (i.e. unbranded) black T shirt <b>OR</b> official black sports top. Students may also wear either an official black hoodie, a leavers hoodie of any colour (with the Vyners logo) and or any unbranded black hoodie.</li> </ul>
<b>Art</b>	<p>Students should wear plain black (i.e. unbranded) leggings/jogging bottoms <b>OR</b> official PE trousers / leggings (available from an official stockist)</p> <p>This should be worn with a plain (i.e. unbranded) black t-shirt <b>OR</b> polo top and an official school hoodie. This may be their sports hoodie from Year 11, a leavers hoodie (of any colour with the school crest) or an official black hoodie (with the school crest) available from an official stockist.</p>
<b>Drama and Performing Arts</b>	<p>Students should wear plain black (i.e. unbranded) leggings/jogging bottoms <b>OR</b> official PE trousers / leggings (available from an official stockist)</p> <p>This should be worn with a plain (i.e. unbranded) black t-shirt <b>OR</b> polo top and a black school hoodie (with the school crest), or a leavers hoodie (of any colour with the school crest) available from an official stockist.</p>



**Hair Styles** - Extremes of hair style are not acceptable. These include unnatural hair dye, shaved heads, Mohicans or shaven patterns or lines. Hair must be one colour and a “grade 2” haircut is the shortest allowed. No lines or shapes are permitted to be shaved into eyebrows. Students failing to follow these guidelines may receive a C4 internal exclusion and subsequent infringements will lead to an external exclusion for gross disobedience.

**Outdoor Coats** - These should be plain with no designs or logos. Outdoor coats must be removed in the school buildings.

**ID Badges and Lanyards** - These must be worn at all times when moving around the building.

**All students:**

- Hooded tops are not to be worn, with the exception of official school PE / Performing Arts clothing.
- Facial piercings are not allowed (other than in ears with the exception of ear bars).
- No visible tattoos.
- An official Vyners practical uniform can be worn on days where practical subjects are studied.

**Any Sixth Form student who breaches the school dress code can expect to be sent home to change.**

**House Colours**

Cheshire - Gold	Gell - White	Jaggar - Grey	Parks - Royal Blue
Fry - Blue	Huxley - Purple	John Miles - Green	Windsor - Yellow



## FRIENDS OF VYNERS SCHOOL

Friends of Vyners (FOV) has been established since the school was founded and over the years has supported the school by providing volunteers for events as well as raising crucial funds for the school. The aim of FOV is to raise funds for the school through different events such as regular quiz nights, raffle tickets etc. Students directly benefit from this fundraising as FOV invest in the school environment and improvements, and provide equipment that students use on a daily basis.

All parents / guardians of students at Vyners School are automatically members of FOV and the FOV committee would be grateful for your help with fundraising activities. This can be helping with selling refreshments at school productions, helping at quiz nights or attending meetings to plan future fundraising activities.

If the thought of getting involved with FOV seems daunting, the reality is that we are looking for a group of people that can commit to one or two events / projects a year so that the load can be shared. Great schools rely on excellent partnerships between home and school and the PTA is a central pillar and an invaluable association. If you are able to spare a couple of hours occasionally through the school year then please do contact [sbrown@vynersschool.org.uk](mailto:sbrown@vynersschool.org.uk) for further details.

We have a fundraising page <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/fovyners/> that provides the school with a small percentage of the purchase price of goods you buy online by linking through their website. It doesn't cost you any more, but it does provide FOV with funds to help the students in school. A small change in your online shopping habits could have a big impact on our fundraising. Participating retailers include ebay, John Lewis, Argos, Amazon, M&S, Sainsbury's and hundreds of other fashion, food, drink and travel companies. Every Little Helps!

### FOV 100 Club

As part of the fundraising activities of FOV we invite all parents/carers to take part in the 100 Club. A payment of £12 buys twelve £1 shares and at committee meetings we draw winners from the shareholders with prizes of £25, £50 and £100.

Please read the information on the 100 Club rules and General Conditions and FAQs. Application forms will be available at the FOV cheese and Wine evening in early October and can be requested via email [100club@friendsofvyners.co.uk](mailto:100club@friendsofvyners.co.uk)

### 100 CLUB RULES

1. **NAME** - The club is called the Friends of Vyners (FOV) 100 Club.
2. **AIM** - The aim of the club is to raise funds for Vyners School PTA.
3. **STATUS** – The club is a subsidiary part of 'Friends of Vyners' and is under the control of the officers of the FOV.
4. **ELIGIBILITY** - Shares in the Club may be purchased by parents / relatives / guardians of pupils or by members of staff, or by those who wish to support the FOV. Membership can continue indefinitely so long as the annual subscription fee is renewed when due. The FOV committee reserves the right to refuse applications to the Club.



5. **SUBSCRIPTION** - Membership of the club is initially divided into 100 shares. The subscription for a share is £1 per calendar month, payable as £12 annually in advance.

6. **PAYMENT** - Payment may be made by cash, cheque or standing order. A member qualifies to take part in the monthly draw in the month following receipt of subscription and in the eleven subsequent months.

7. **DRAW** - Random draw(s) for the winning share(s) will take place at the meeting of the committee of the FOV following the month(s) for which a draw(s) has yet to take place. Each draw shall take place in the presence of at least 3 members of the FOV committee. Prize winners will be notified individually according to the details held on their application and all winning numbers will be published in the School/FOV newsletter.

8. **PRIZE FUND** -

An annual prize fund of £600 will be allocated from subscriptions.  
This fund will be allocated as prizes in the following way:

12 Monthly Prizes of £25

4 Quarterly Prizes of £50 (March, June, September, December)

1 Annual Prize of £100 (December)

In the event of less than 50 members participating in the club, the monthly draws (i.e. £25) will take place, but the quarterly and annual draws will not take place (i.e. prizes of £50 and £100).

In the event of 100 but less than 200 members participating in the club, an annual prize fund of £600 will be allocated from subscriptions as detailed above in point 8: Prize Fund.

Thereafter, additional clubs will be launched under identical terms and conditions if membership increases by multiples of one hundred. For example:

In the event of 200 but less than 300 members participating in the club, a second club will be launched under identical terms and conditions, with an annual prize fund of £1,200.

In the event of 300 but less than 400 members participating in the club, a third club will be launched under identical terms and conditions, with an annual prize fund of £1,800, and so on.

The FOV Committee may appoint a member of the FOV to act on its behalf as club organiser, and winners' cheques should be cashed within 6 months of the issue date. Regretfully, under no circumstances can cheques be re-issued.

All correspondence relating to the club should be directed to the organiser stated on the face of this form, either by telephone, e-mail or via the school at the address specified.

Any dispute arising from membership of the club will be decided by the current president of the FOV, this being the Headteacher or Acting Headteacher.

## **FAQs**

### **"I want to help but can't, I don't have the time."**

Like everything in life it's about priorities! We all have busy lives, but if you want to help and really can't spare the time then we ask that you at least join the 100 Club and purchase your online shopping via our website: <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/foyners/>

### **"I can't volunteer on a regular basis – I have other commitments."**

It doesn't matter – any help will be appreciated, there will always be a place for you. You don't have to help on a regular basis.

### **"How much of my time will it take up?"**

A committee member will only need to attend no more than two short meetings a term plus the AGM.



An 'occasional helper' can do as little or as much as they want.

**“Is FOV open to everyone?”**

Yes – that is why all parents and staff are automatically members.

**“Isn't the PTA a clique full of the mums from junior school?”**

No – we are just a group of parents who want to try to help enrich the education of all the children in the school; we are an open, friendly and diverse group of parents who care.

**“What will FOV really do to help me and my child (ren)?”**

Provide extra funds to buy equipment and benefit the whole school i.e. fund trips that your child/children might want to go on in the future.

Enhance your social life – you can have fun and make new friends as we run a number of social evenings including quiz nights throughout the year and it's a chance for you to meet other parents.

Provide a vital link between parents and teachers.

FOV offers the opportunity to be actively involved in your child's school and get to know their world.

**“Has FOV made a difference to Vyners?”**

Yes! With the help of parents, FOV have already raised over £200,000 since 1990.

FOV has paid out over £25,000 in 100 Club prizes, so don't forget to hand in your completed form to become a member of the FOV 100 Club to stand a chance of winning one of the monthly drawn prizes.

Supported modern, clean and safe minibuses that are used for school trips and sporting fixtures.

Match funded a major upgrade to the stage lighting in 2025

Supported the Wi-Fi network throughout the school.

Enabled the school to access additional specialist funds through matched funding, i.e. if the school raises £10,000 the external funder will match it.

Supported 'Art' & other projects around the school.

Supported the famous 'Vyners School' drama productions.

Purchased 'specialist' items which cannot be funded via normal budgets for departments that include science, music, modern foreign languages, art & sport.

Funded equipment for the 'Duke of Edinburgh' Award scheme.

Provided refreshments at school events.

And much more, as well as making the world a slightly better place.....