

SPALDING GRAMMAR SCHOOL

INFORMATION FOR NEW PARENTS

TERM DATES FOR 2026/2027

Term 1	Thursday 3 September to Thursday 22 October 2026
Term 2	Monday 2 November to Friday 18 December 2026
Term 3	Tuesday 5 January to Friday 12 February 2027
Term 4	Monday 22 February to Thursday 25 March 2027
Term 5	Tuesday 13 April to Friday 28 May 2027
Term 6	Monday 7 June to Wednesday 21 July 2027

TRAVEL TO AND FROM SCHOOL

Bus: If your child is starting primary school or transferring to secondary school in September 2026, they may be eligible for school transport. If you think your child is eligible, please apply for transport as soon as you have your offer of a school place. Applications can be made online at the website below or a telephone application can be made by contacting the Customer Service Centre on 01522 782020.

For more information about the home to school transport policy and online applications please go to www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/school-college-transport. Queries can be emailed to schooltransportapplications@lincolnshire.gov.uk

Bike: Permits are required and are easily available at the School. They will also be available at the Induction Evening and on New Boys Day.

Car : Parents are asked to drop and collect pupils well away from the school gates.
DO NOT DRIVE ONTO THE SCHOOL PREMISES AT THE BEGINNING AND END OF THE SCHOOL DAY EXCEPT IN EMERGENCIES

Why not encourage your child to walk a few hundred metres to and from your car?

On foot: Ideal for those who live near enough and an excellent way of getting fitter.

ALLOCATION TO FORMS

Your son will be allocated to a tutor group in one of six Houses

Your son will be allocated to one of five teaching groups for the majority of his lessons.

CURRICULUM

In their first year all students study:

English	Maths	Science	French
Geography	History	Technology	Latin
Art	Music	RS	ICT
PE & Games	PaCE (Personal and Careers Education)		

INDUCTION

On the first day of Term 1 pupils will be given an induction session in which they are given details about the customs and habits of the School, guidance about personal organisation, homework, the effective use of their school planner, and so on.

HOMEWORK

Homework is an essential element of the work of the School and pupils must take a conscientious and organised approach to it. In the first few weeks they are given time to accustom themselves to regular homework habits. Thereafter they have a regular programme averaging three subjects per night which should take about 60 – 90 minutes in total. The amount increases in subsequent years. Pupils who fail to give homework a high priority are almost certain to experience major difficulties sooner or later, and parental support in pre-empting such problems can prove invaluable.

REPORTING TO PARENTS

Parents are able to access all academic and behavioural data 'live' via the Go4Schools platform. We do not operate a system of written reports.

PASTORAL CARE

The first point of contact is the Form Tutor who will keep in regular contact with you to support your son's progress through the School. We will be holding a Welcome Evening in Term 1 when you will be invited in to School for an in-depth discussion on your son's overall progress and how he has settled in.

RULES

The basis of all school rules is respect and consideration for others. The general standard of conduct is high, and discipline is not a major issue. Certain rules are published in the interests of pupil safety and the maintenance of good order, but we concentrate more on a general understanding of civilised and considerate behaviour. Punishments, when necessary, range from a reprimand or simple chore through detention (at lunchtime or after school) to internal isolation and, in extreme cases, exclusion from school.

ABSENCE

Absence from school should only be for illness or injury. Parents are asked to contact the School via the absence email absence@spaldinggrammar.lincs.sch.uk on the first day of absence.

For general absence: In special circumstances absence may be granted in advance. A Leave of Absence form needs to be submitted at least 15 days in advance of the proposed absence.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

This is a vital part of school life and many opportunities exist, particularly in sport, music and drama. Once a pupil has given a firm commitment to such an activity it should not be broken lightly. Many pupils depend on their parents for support in such activities, both in a practical sense (e.g., transport) and ethically (e.g., responsibilities to teams and school).

SCHOOL CLOSURE

In the event of heavy snow or an emergency it may prove necessary to close the School. If this decision is made before the start of the school day every attempt will be made to post a message on the school website and the local radio by 7.30 am. Parents will also be contacted via ParentMail. If the School has to close during the day, then students will be given the opportunity to contact parents before leaving school. All families need to have arrangements in place to make sure their children are safe should they arrive home before the normal time.

FAMILY HOLIDAY

Please take your family holiday during school holiday time. However diligent a student is in catching up work it is not the same as experiencing the learning first-hand with the rest of the students. From 1 September 2013 new regulations mean Head Teachers are no longer in a position to authorise absence for family holiday. In exceptional circumstances leave of absence in term time can be authorised by the School and a request form for leave of absence should be obtained from the School Office and the completed form submitted to the Head of Year. Exceptional circumstances are regarded as circumstances beyond the parents' control (e.g., a period of serious illness or bereavement in the family, or a religious festival). The cost of a holiday, the availability of flights, gifts, public events, family birthdays or weddings are not normally regarded as exceptional circumstances.

Family holidays taken in term time will then be recorded as unauthorised absence. On the spot penalty notices can be issued by the Police if a student is found to be out of school in a public place during term time without a valid reason or authorisation from the School.

FINANCIAL

All parents will be asked to register on ParentMail as this is our payment portal for cashless catering, trips, revision guides, parental consent etc. etc. Payments can be made by Debit Card, Credit Card and PayPal. ParentMail is quick and simple to install and easy to use, particularly the App. Just download via your AppStore and log in with your Username and password and you are connected. An email link has been sent to you inviting you to register. If you have not yet registered or are experiencing problems, please contact the School Finance Team.

Trips and activities

Numerous school trips and activities are available, both during school time and in the holidays. Contributions are voluntary for trips and activities (but are not voluntary for residential trips). However, trips and activities will not take place if insufficient contributions are received.

Support is available to parents and pupils who suffer financial hardship. The strictest confidentiality is guaranteed.

Pupil Premium is allocated to schools to work with pupils who have been registered for free school meals (FSM) at any point in the last six years. Schools also receive funding for children who have been looked after continuously for more than six months, and children of service personnel. Any parent who thinks that they should be entitled to FSM is encouraged to apply either through the Lincolnshire County Council website or via the link on the school website. Pupil Premium funding is used to support students in accordance with the School's Policy (accessible on the school website).

Damage

Pupils who cause damage through their own deliberate or irresponsible action will be asked to pay the cost of repair/replacement.

Cashless Catering

Our dining facilities are cashless. There is a cafeteria service each day in the Canteen as well as food to take away in the Atrium; both operate using Biometric finger recognition. The Cashless Catering system will allow you to see what your son had eaten and paid for each day as well as removing the worry of him losing cash on the premises.

UNIFORM

There are clear guidelines on appropriate dress for all pupils, and their interpretation rarely presents a problem for Year 7 pupils. The uniform comprises the school blazer and tie, a plain white shirt, a grey V-neck pullover (if needed), black trousers (not "jeans-style"), plain dark or grey socks and black shoes (not trainers or canvas etc). Hair, like the clothes, should simply be clean and neat, of natural colour and not extreme in fashion. Earrings are not permitted. In all questions of appearance, the emphasis is on smartness and uniformity.

Outdoor coats should be a plain, dark colour without large logos. Outdoor coats should only be worn over blazers, not instead of blazers.

Hoodies should not be worn at any time. They are not a substitute for a jumper or an outdoor coat. Football scarves and hats are not permitted

Items of school uniform, including sports kit, can be bought from the following school suppliers:

Please note: Boys wear one of six House ties depending which House they are in. You have already had notification of which House your son will be in. Ties are purchased from the School directly and you will receive a separate letter regarding Ancillary items.

Online from Chromasport - www.chromasport.co.uk

SPORTS CLOTHING

Compulsory

Outdoor PE: A long-sleeve, multi-sport top, navy PE shorts, "Two Blues" socks, football/rugby boots, (with safety studs), mouth guard, shin pads.

Indoor PE/Summer Sports: SGS White polo shirt, white socks and **indoor** trainers.

Optional Items: SGS quarter zip top and training pants

Please note: When representing the School in sports teams, shirts should include an embroidered SGS badge.

Bags of any size may be used to bring books and kit to and from school. Bags designed to be carried on the back are better for youngsters' physical development. Pupils are encouraged to carry books by hand for a maximum of two lessons at a time.

All clothes and other personal belongings must be clearly marked, preferably with woven nametapes.