

Welcome to Borden Grammar School



NITERE PORRO

Year 7 Student Welcome Booklet

Pupil's Name:

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Welcome to Borden Grammar School!

We are so pleased that you have chosen to join the Borden Grammar School community.

My name is Miss Irinoye and I will be your Head of Year during your first year at Borden. I will be on hand to help you settle into school life and am someone you can come to if you have any concerns at any point.

We know that the transition to secondary school may seem like quite a big change and you may be leaving some old friends behind! Here at Borden we are working hard to ensure that your transition to secondary school is as smooth as possible. Within this booklet you can find key information about the school and what to expect when you start in September.

As your Head of Year, myself and the Year 7 Pastoral team will do our best to ensure that your first year at Borden is enjoyable and that you take advantage of the fantastic opportunity that being a Borden Grammar boy presents.





Background Information and the History of our School

Borden Grammar School was founded as an independent day and boarding school in 1878, the original building is now the Adult Education Centre off College Road. In 1928 the present main building was completed; the Short Building was added in 1998. The school is now a Grammar School for boys, with Academy status and has a mixed Sixth Form.

The school badge has a navy field divided by a gold chevron. On the field there are three crescents representing sons of sons - the generations of boys educated here. Our motto *nitere porro* means "to strive forward".

When you walk around school you will notice many memorials to past boys. The Cricket Pavilion is dedicated to the boys who were killed in the Great War. The school clock tower is dedicated to the boys who were killed in World War II. A third war memorial is found in the entrance hall; there is a plaque over the door and a memorial book in a glass case.

Early academic memorials are found in the Hall, and you will find rooms, benches and paintings dedicated to former staff and boys. In the Library there are many books written or published by Old Boys of this school, your school.

We are very proud of our school's history and hope you are excited about joining us in order to be part of it too!



The Borden Values and Our Expectations

You will see the Borden Values tree around school and in all classrooms. The six values that all staff and students aspire to were designed by our current pupils and represent the things they felt were most important to us in order to be safe, happy and successful during our time here. These values will be regularly discussed in assemblies and form times and rewards given out where staff can see you clearly demonstrating any of these values.



Rewards and Sanctions

At Borden we like to celebrate all successes, not just academically but also those that display our Borden Values whilst at school.

Teachers always look to award students with achievement points for displaying positive behaviour whilst learning and also whilst you make your way around the school.

We also have various rewards systems that you will become a part of when you join us in September



Bullying and Protected Characteristics

We have a total zero tolerance on any kind of bullying or intimidating behaviour. We believe that everyone has the right to feel safe and happy at school and I'm sure you will agree with that! We have anti-bullying ambassadors across the school who work together to educate and promote the school's ethos on anti-bullying.

It is really important that you are aware of protected characteristics, as a school we take any actions against a protected characteristic very seriously. We will educate you on acceptable use of language as well as the schools behaviour policy for this type of behaviour.

We would recommend that you are aware of the protected characteristics

Every year we train anti-bullying ambassadors in order to look out for the signs that someone is being bullied and to spread the anti bullying message.

Perhaps you will become one during your time in Year 7?

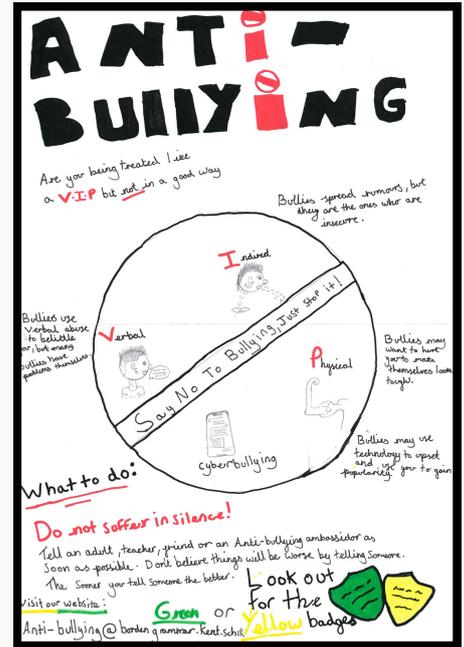
Travel and Arrival at School

It is probably a really good idea to get familiar with the journey you are going to take to and from school. Some of you may use public transport (a public bus, a school bus or the train) others may walk or get dropped by car.

It's important that you familiarise yourself with your new routine

Here are 5 Travel Top Tips from our current Year 7's:

1. Try to get to the bus stop/train station a little bit earlier before the bus/train is due to arrive
2. Get to grips with the bus times so that you have a plan should you miss the bus one morning! You can always ask your parents, bus drivers or other students for help, try not to panic
3. Only cross the road when it is safe to do so - use the signposted crossings
4. If there are any incidents on your journey to or from school, report them to a staff member when you arrive at school or let the bus driver know if something is happening on the bus.
5. Remember that the bus companies work closely with the school and there is CCTV on the bus, whilst you are in Borden uniform you are representing the school





Equipment

You will need a small school bag, it is important that you bring the required equipment into school with you everyday!

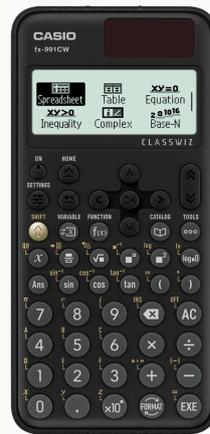
Everyday equipment includes:

- A Pencil Case
- 2 or 3 Pencils
- 2 or 3 Pens (Black or Blue Ink)
- 2 or 3 different coloured Pens (Red, Purple or Green)
- A Ruler
- A Sharpner
- An Eraser
- A Casio Scientific Calcuator
- A Reading Book



Subject Specific Equipment

- Wired Jack Headphones for Music
- French Pocket Dictionary
- Spanish Pocket Dictionary





Our School Day - “A Day in the life of a Year 7”

Each morning, the school site is open for student access from 08:15 am. You will enter the school site via the side gate, doors to the Year 7 area will be open from 08:30 am. Breakfast club is available from 08:15 am till 08:40 am and is free for all students, so please do feel free to grab a Bagel with Butter or Jam (or both!)

You need to be in your form room from 08:40 as your form tutor will take the register at 08:45 for registration, followed by form time each morning.

Below you can see an outline of the day:

You will have 5 sixty-minute lessons each day

KS3 Lunch consists of just Years 7, 8 and 9

Registration	08:45 - 08:50
Assembly/Form Time	08:50 - 09:10
Lesson 1	09:10 - 10:10
Lesson 2	10:10 - 11:10
Break	11:10 - 11:30
Lesson 3	11:30 - 12:30
KS3 Lunch	12:30 - 13:15
Lesson 4	13:15 - 14:15
Lesson 5	14:15 - 15:15
Extracurricular Clubs	15:15 till 16:15





We also operate a two week timetable system, below is an example of what a Year 7's timetable could look like:

Week 1	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Form Time	Assembly (Form Competition Update)	Termly Focus	Effective Learning	Wellbeing and Healthy Masculinity	Friday Quiz
Period 1	Geography	Religious Studies	Science	Personal Development	Mathematics
Period 2	English	English	Design Technology	English	Art
Period 3	Science	Music	Geography	History	Spanish
Period 4	History	French	History	Physical Education	Design Technology
Period 5	Mathematics	Physical Education	Mathematics	Information Technology	Science

Week 2	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Form Time	Assembly (Form Competition Update)	Termly Focus	Effective Learning	Wellbeing and Healthy Masculinity	Friday Quiz
Period 1	English	Spanish	Geography	Drama	English
Period 2	Drama	Science	Mathematics	Information Technology	Physical Education
Period 3	Religious Studies	Mathematics	Physical Education	Art	Spanish
Period 4	Music	French	Science	French	Mathematics
Period 5	Mathematics	Personal Development	English (Library Lesson)	English	Science



Breaktime, Lunchtime & The Canteen

Break and lunchtime at our school may look quite different to what you are used to at Primary school. The whole school has break time at the first time and then lunch is split into Key Stage 3 and then Key Stages 4 & 5

Break Time

This takes place after Period 2 at 11:10 till 11:30.

During Break Time you can visit the canteen for food, visit the school library or head to the designated social spaces for your year group (you will be shown this on your first day in September)

Lunch Time

Takes place after Period 3 at 12:30 till 13:15. Years 7, 8 and 9 are at lunch at the same time.

You can eat your lunch in the school hall or outside under the canopy area or the MUGA.

During the summer terms we also open the Sale Field during lunchtime.

The Canteen

You can choose to bring a packed lunch, use the canteen or do a mixture of both!

Lunch can be eaten in the Hall or outside in the designated social time spaces, we have benches and a covered canopy area for you to enjoy your lunchtime whilst eating your food and socialising with your friends.

Our canteen runs a **cashless system**, you will pay for your food/drink by fingerprint and so a parent/guardian will need to add money to your account so that you can purchase items, details on this will be shared soon!

The canteen is full of delicious meals and snacks, we also have a Food Pod outside which serves cold food!



Please visit the school website for more information



HOT		COLD	
Breakfast Roll	£1.55	Blue Dot Roll	£1.50
3 Piece Breakfast Pot	£2.10	Deli Sub/Sandwich	£2.20
Breakfast Wrap	£2.85	Wrap	£2.85
Pasta Pots	Med £1.80 Large £2.50	Basic Baguette	£2.50
Clabatta	£3.00	Premium Baguette	£2.85
Toastie	£2.20	Half Baguette	£1.55
Panini	£2.65	Cold Pasta Pot - 16oz	£2.50
Half Panini	£1.95	Naturally Premium Salads	£3.00
Hot Bowls	£3.00	Protein Pot	£1.00
Showwmas	£3.00	Salad Pot	£2.00
Korean Crispy Chicken	£3.00	Jelly/Yoghurt/Fruit Pot	£1.00
Chicken Fajita Taco Boat	£3.00	Piece of Fruit	£0.55
Chicken Wings	£2.30		
Pizza Slice	£1.55		

BUY INDIVIDUAL ITEMS FOR £1.10 OR LESS

OR

4 BUNDLE ANY 4 ITEMS FOR £ 3.00

HOT DELI	PRICE	4OZ POTS	PRICE
Garlic Bread	£1.10	Selection of Fruit Pots	£1.00
Pizza Melt Bap/Boat	£1.10	Selection of Jelly Pots	£1.00
Cheese On Toast/Bap	£1.10	Selection of Yoghurt Pots	£1.00
Pizza Melt Quesadilla	£1.10	Selection of Seed Pots	£1.00
BBQ Melt Bap	£1.10	Selection of Protein Pots	£1.00
Spinach & Hash Brown	£1.10		
Egg Bite			

COLD DELI	PRICE	HOMEBAKES	PRICE
A Selection of Rolls: Ham, Cheese, Tuna, Chicken Mayo, Egg Mayo	£1.50	Mini Muffin	£1.00
		Mini Cookie	£1.00
		Mini Shortbread Triangle	£1.00
		Mini Flapjack Triangle	£1.00

DRINKS			
200ml Radnor Carton	£1.10	Push Up Lolly	£1.10
Bottle of Water	£1.10	Twin Lolly	£1.10
Generation Juice - 500ml	£1.10	Ice Cream Pot	£1.10
200ml Flavoured Milk	£1.10	Rocket Lolly	£1.10

* Not all items are available everyday



Uniform

It will be your responsibility to make sure you have the correct uniform on at all times (the uniform list has been sent to your home already).

Our School Day Uniform is:

- Navy Blazer, single breasted with the school badge on breast pocket
- Grey plain V-Neck Jumper (optional)
- White Shirt - short or long sleeved
- KS3 Borden School Tie
- DarkGrey/Black tailored trousers
- Dark coloured Socks
- Plain black shoes with no logo (not trainer, plimsolls or other canvas shoes)

Our PE Kit is:

- T-shirt with school logo
- Navy Blue Shorts
- Rugby shirt in school colours
- Long Socks (Football and Hockey)
- Shin Pads (Football and Hockey)
- Gum Shield (Rugby and Hockey)
- Studded Boots (Football and Rugby)

General Points

- Jewellery is not permitted - this includes necklaces, rings and piercings
- Hair must be of a natural colour
- Those students with long hair must carry a band to tie it up (and must tie it up when asked to do so)
- Nails must be natural - this includes no nail extensions and no nail polish
- Pupils are not permitted to wear make up
- T-shirts, when worn beneath a shirt, should be white with no visible lettering
- Garments bearing logos of any kind (other than the school logo) are not permitted

**Make sure that all your uniform, kit and equipment has been clearly named!
We cannot be held responsible for items of clothing or property lost or damaged**





Mobile Phones

We follow a strict **On Site, Out of Sight, Off** policy.

This means that pupils should have their mobile phones off at all times whilst on school site. Mobile phones and headphones must also be out of sight in a bag or pocket when students enter the gates in the morning, until they leave the gates in the afternoon.

Smartwatches should never be used as communication devices; the only exception to this is when pupils have been **expressly given permission** by a teacher to use the device as a learning aid.

Any staff member can confiscate a student's mobile phone, students are expected to comply with any request for mobile phone confiscation. Refusal to hand their phone over will result in further consequences.

Confiscated mobile phones will be taken to reception, stored in a named envelope and can be collected at the end of the school day.

The only exception to this, is if you have a medical condition whereby your mobile phone is used to monitor levels and control treatment.

If this is the case, please speak with the SENCo, Mrs Zarzycki.



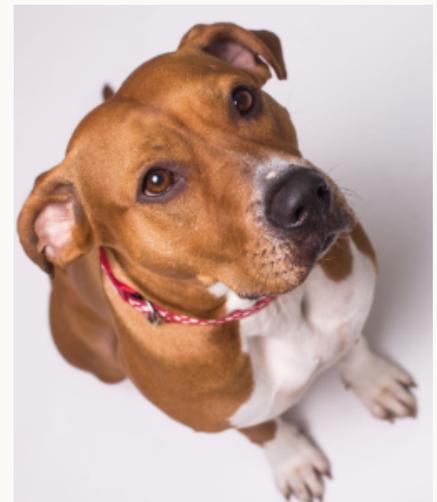
Therapy Dog

Borden is very lucky to have our very own therapy dog, Hazy! She comes into school with Miss Powell 3 times a week.

Therapy dogs have been found to:

- Decrease distress and increase comfort
- Have a positive effect on student's mood and anxiety
- Improve outcomes by improving student wellbeing
- Promote engagement in school (and therefore attendance)

Hazy is here to support all students and can be found in the library during the school day. If you do not wish to interact with Hazy when she is in school, please complete our **opt out Google form**.





Our Top Tips

Here are 20 top tips from our current year 7's which you may find helpful/useful for starting at Borden Grammar School:

- Speak to as many people as possible about things you are interested in – they are probably just as nervous as you are!
- Get homework done as soon as possible after it is set – it can build up otherwise!
- Make sure you have all your equipment by checking your bag every morning before leaving for school
- Make sure your uniform is smart and correct
- Think about your behaviour in the school corridors and make sure you follow the one way systems
- You can talk to anyone if you need help! Everyone is really friendly and was once in your position
- Try to make a good first impression with your teachers and classmates
- Try to make a new friend during transition day, it makes the first day of year 7 less daunting
- Try to schedule your time and work backwards, think about how long it will take you to get to school, how long you'll need to get ready and then you'll know what time you need to get up each morning.
- Set a reminder for Sparx Maths homework every week so you don't forget
- Although the school looks big from the outside, it's actually not that big so try not to feel overwhelmed.
- Sometimes, having lots of people from your primary school at your secondary school is a good thing, but even if you're the only person joining Borden from your primary school, that's okay! You can still make friends
- Remember that you deserve to be at Borden and have earned your place here!
- There is always a teacher or a member of staff you can talk to if you're feeling down or stressed
- Try to learn your timetable quickly – use Arbor, have it printed (and possibly laminated)
- Make sure you eat breakfast in the mornings and bring enough water
- Make sure you know where the lost and found is kept (just in case!)
- Always have spare equipment
- Make sure that you get to grips with the schools policies
- Ask questions! If there is something you don't know please feel free to ask your form tutor or HoY or a student! We are all here to help you





FAQ's

- **What should I bring on my first day?**
 - On the first day you will spend quite a bit of time within your form groups learning about school life at Borden and getting to know the people in your classroom. Make sure you bring your everyday equipment with you, lunch if you are not going to visit the canteen and a positive attitude
- **How do I find my way around the school if I get lost?**
 - You will be given a map on your first day and have a detailed tour of the school with your form tutor and form group. There is also a map at the back of this welcome booklet so that you can start to get familiar with the school layout. If you are ever lost during your first few weeks, don't stress! You can ask any student or staff member for help and they will be more than happy to show you where you need to go.
- **Do I go to lessons with my form group?**
 - Yes, you will spend all of your lessons with your form group, apart from DT lessons where you are mixed up into smaller groups made up of 2 or 3 form groups
- **What happens if I am late or miss the bus?**
 - If you arrive at school late, you will need to enter school via the front gate where a staff member will direct you on whether you need to sign in at the main reception or need to make your way to your current lesson. We understand as a school that sometimes it is out of your hands if you are late, but persistent lateness will lead to a detention so strive to get to school on time!
- **Do I have the same teacher for all subjects?**
 - You will have a different teacher for each subject, there may be times where you have the same teacher for 2 subjects, this typically happens in DT and Art or Music and Drama
- **How is homework set and where can I find it?**
 - Your teachers will set your homework on google classroom, sometimes you will need to submit homework online or in person – your teacher will be really clear with you each time.
- **What should I do if I'm struggling with a subject?**
 - If you feel you are struggling in a subject, it would be best to speak with your teacher about it so they can help you! Teachers at Borden are always happy to help and will come up with engaging and creative ways to support your learning.
- **Can I go off-site at lunchtime?**
 - Unfortunately not! However we do have designated social spaces for you to spend your lunchtime and a canteen with food you can purchase.
- **Are there any school sports teams I can join?**
 - We have a large variety of sports teams that you can join, ranging from Football, Rugby, Cricket, Athletics, Basketball and many more! We even very recently started a Golf club!
- **What if I don't know anyone at the school?**
 - You will make new friends at Borden! Everyone is super friendly and all the year 7's are in the same boat as you, even if they have people from their primary school with them. During the first few weeks at Borden, during form time you will complete activities to help you all in getting to know each other and building new friendships. You could maybe join a club to meet new people and try new things!
- **Will I get a locker?**
 - Our lockers are kept outside around the school site and if you would like to purchase a locker to hire, please contact the school office. You are not automatically issued a locker but do have priority for hire.
- **What should I do if someone is being unkind or I see bullying?**
 - We all look out for each other at Borden and so if you are experiencing unkind behaviour please report this to a member of staff, your form tutor or your head of year. We have an anti-bullying policy and we can assure you that Borden takes all bullying behaviour very seriously.
- **Who can I talk to if I have any worries/queries?**
 - Your form tutor is someone that you will see every morning and will get to know you very well, we would recommend chatting to them if you have any worries/concerns and then they can pass this on to Miss Irinoye if need be. You can also speak with any of the teachers that you feel comfortable with.



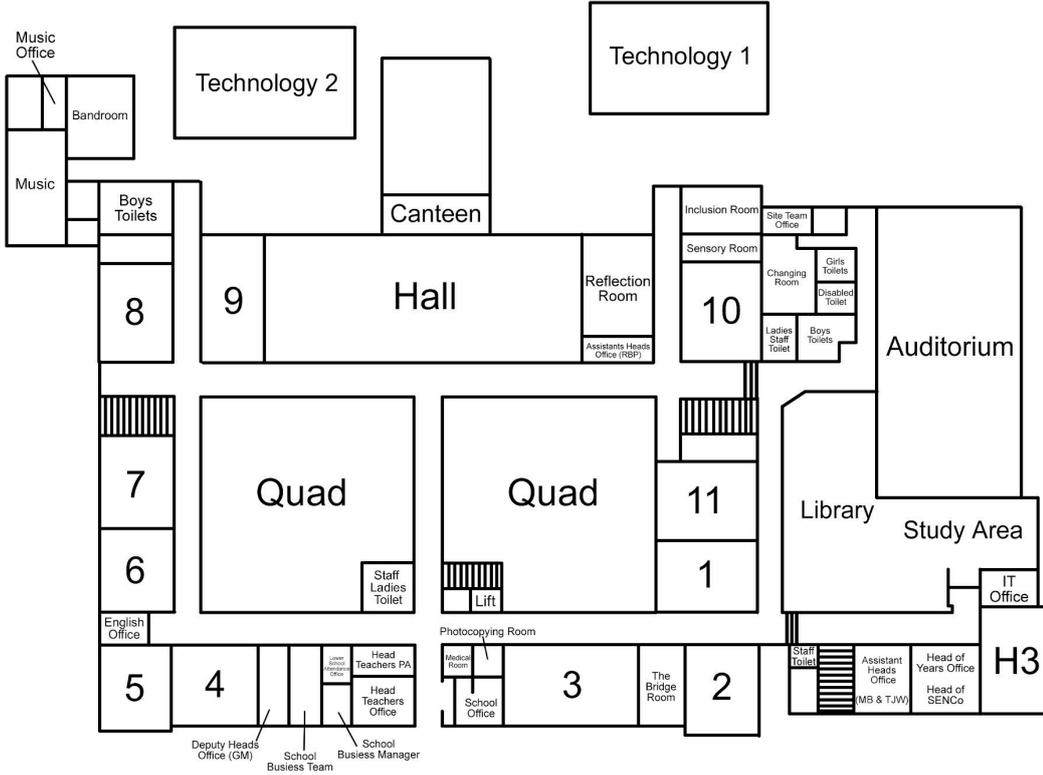
Term Dates 2025/26

Term 1 Starts	Monday 1 st September 2025	Staff Development Day 1
	Tuesday 2 nd September 2025	Year 7 Students Start
	Wednesday 3 rd September 2025	Year 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 & 13 Students Start (all students in)
Term 1 Ends	Friday 17 th October 2025	
Term 2 Starts	Monday 27 th October 2025	Staff Development Day 2
	Tuesday 28 th October 2025	Staff Development Day 3
	Wednesday 29 th October 2025	All Students Return
Term 2 Ends	Friday 19 th December 2025	12:30pm Early Finish
Term 3 Starts	Monday 5 th January 2026	
Term 3 Ends	Friday 13 th February 2026	
Term 4 Starts	Monday 23 rd February 2026	
Term 4 Ends	Thursday 2 nd April 2026	2:15pm Early Finish
Term 5 Starts	Monday 20 th April 2026	
Early May Bank Holiday	Monday 4 th May 2026	School Closed
Term 5 Ends	Friday 22 nd May 2026	
Term 6 Starts	Monday 1 st June 2026	
Term 6 Ends	Friday 17 th July 2026	12:30pm Early Finish
	Monday 20 th July 2026	Staff Development Day 4
	Tuesday 21 st July 2026	Staff Development Day 5

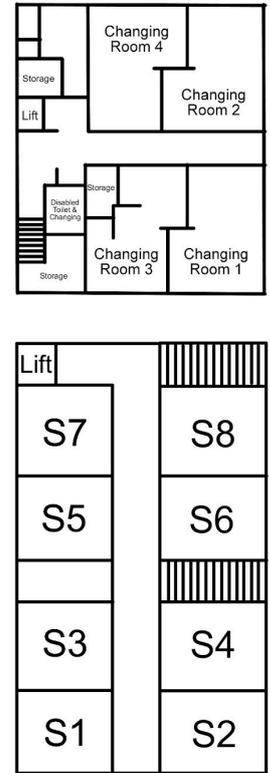
Borden Grammar School Map



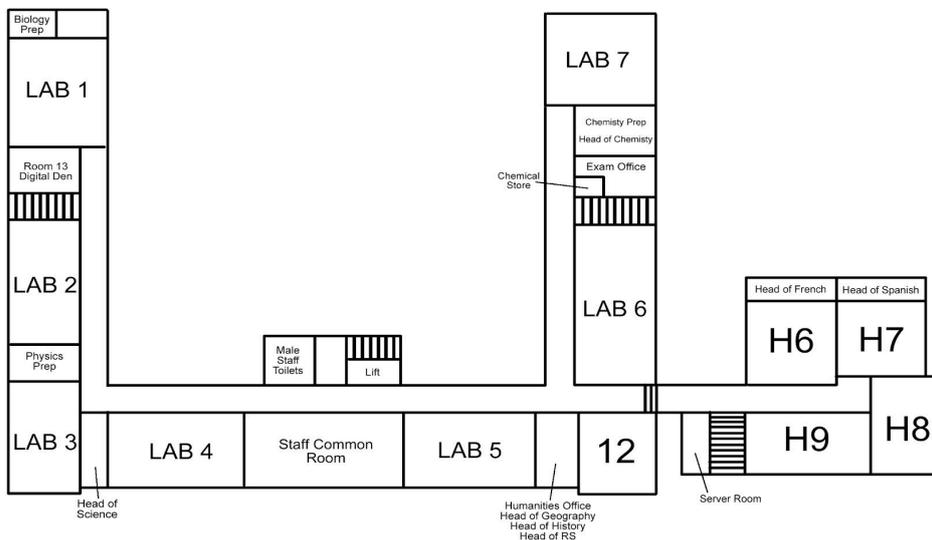
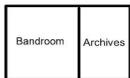
Ground Floor



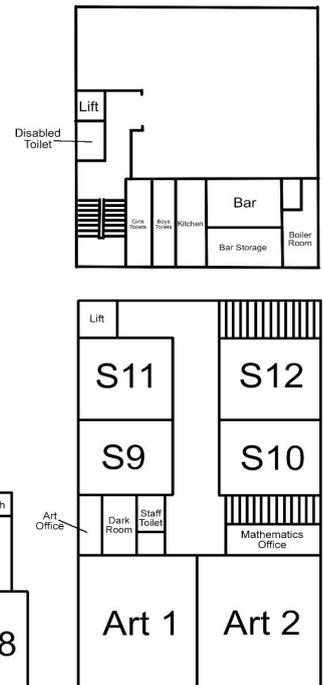
Pavilion



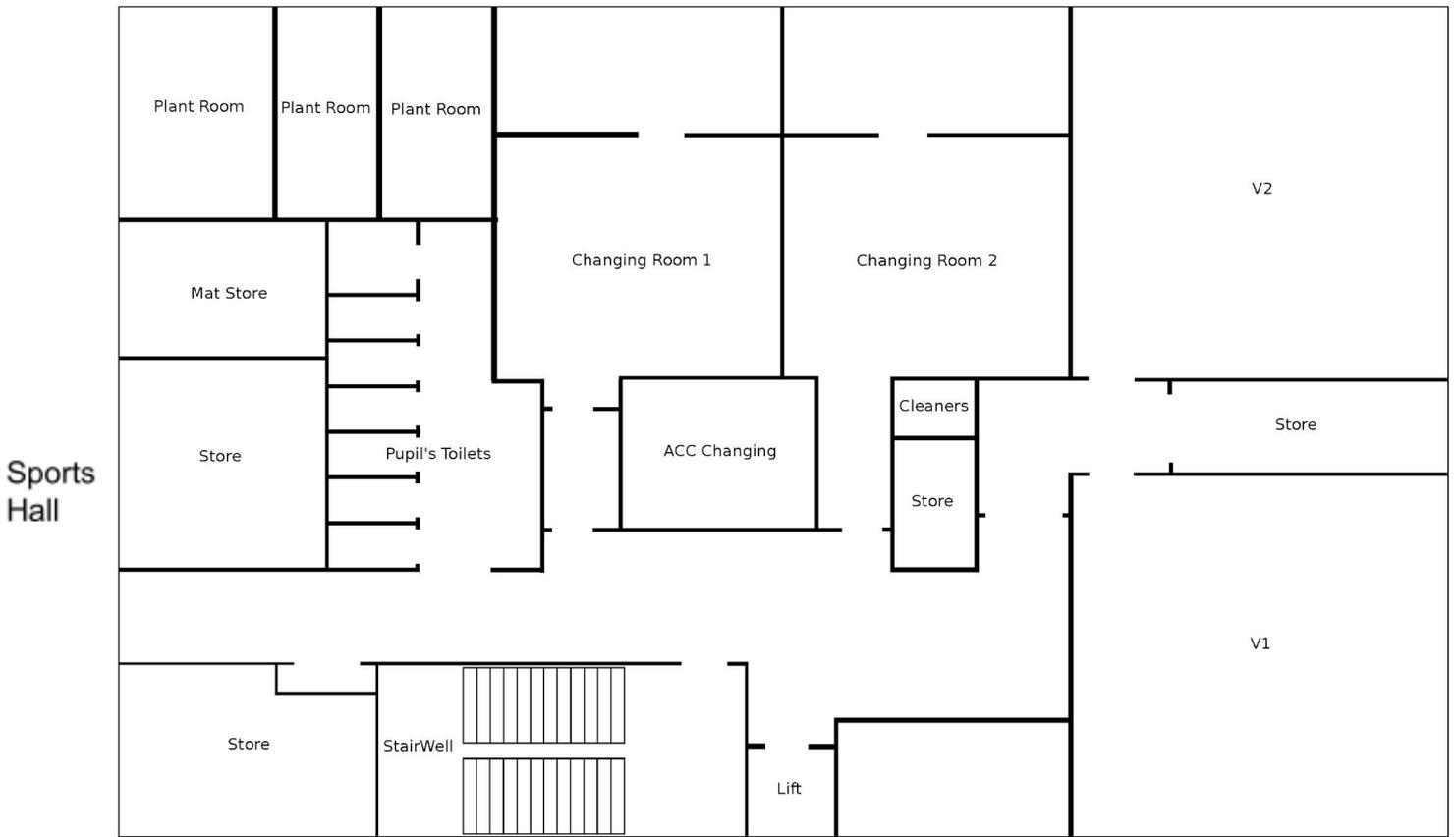
First Floor



Pavilion



V Block - Ground Floor



V Block Upper Floor

