



NNO/JBI
17 October 2022

Dear Blaise Families,

As we approach the end of our first half term, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your ongoing support, as we transform Blaise High School into one of the very best schools in the country. This week, I am writing to you regarding social times.

At Blaise High School, we believe that education is too important to waste a second on disruptive behaviour. We also recognise that given how hard our students work, it is important that they are given the opportunity to enjoy activities and socialise during break and lunch. Our break is at 11:15am, for twenty minutes and our lunch is at 1:25pm for thirty five minutes.

Year 7 has a separate area for lunch and break. This is so that they have a slightly more nurturing, smaller experience, supporting their transition from primary to secondary school. Year 7 uses the Atrium and the rest of the school uses the Main Hall and the Dining Hall. During break and lunch students eat whilst sitting down. Students can use the seating outside to sit and eat. In the event of these seats being too wet to use, the students are permitted to eat standing up. In the event of a wet break in which students have to stay inside, students may eat standing in the dining hall. Eating whilst sitting down means that we have more oversight of the children, can identify any potential issues and that students are better able to take pride in the school and leave no litter. Since the beginning of the year we have ordered additional tables and opened the yellow corridor for seating. The sitting whilst eating also enables the students to sit and have a proper conversation with one another, whilst being healthier for their digestive system. Bathrooms are available for all year groups at break and at lunch and are supervised by members of staff to reduce the chances of bullying.

We offer a range of sports and activities at break and at lunch. The Astro is open for organised football in year groups. We open the MUGA for girls football, the sports hall is open for organised sport and the basketball hoops in the courtyard are open for use. We have also opened the library and identified students can access Thrive for mental health support. We will expand this offer when we launch our enrichment programme in unit 2. Please do contact us if you have particular ideas for enrichment activities.

Our social times are positive, calm and supportive of the students. We continue to have clear expectations on behaviour during social times because if we didn't it would be harder for children to return to lessons. We use RfL cards to reward positive behaviour and correct any negative behaviour out of lessons.

Please keep your eye on the website for a video explaining how this works at the school.

Wishing you a fantastic week.

Yours faithfully,

Mr N Nabarro
Headteacher

