Frequently Asked Questions for Transition.

Can my child go to the toilet during lessons?
We encourage all children to go to the toilet during break and lunch times as visits to the toilet during lesson times can disrupt both their own and other children's learning. If your child has a medical condition which means they will need to visit the toilet more regularly, please inform their class teacher.

Can my child re-fill their water bottles?
Yes, there are water fountains in each of the three wing which children will be able to use to fill their water bottles. Children are also provided with water on their tables at lunch time.

What happens if they forget their dinner money?
Sometimes children do forget their money, the dinner staff will make a note of their name and they can pay the next day.

How much homework will they get? How much support will my child need with this?
Homework is given out on Friday and is due in on Wednesday. Children will receive both Maths and English homework, each piece will take approximately 30 minutes to complete. Homework is based upon the learning that has taken place that week, children should be able to complete this with minimal support. All homework should be signed by a parent/guardian. If there are any queries about homework, children are advised to talk to their set teacher before the hand in date. In addition, children will also have a list of spellings to learn. We use a look, say, cover, write, check method. We also encourage children to read regularly and at least three times a week.

What is the procedure if they are on medication, eg antibiotics?
Parents/Carers are advised to contact the school regarding specific medications. Staff are not permitted to administer any medication to children, however parents/carers can come to school to give their child medication if necessary.

What is the procedure if my child has allergies?
All families are required to provide details of children’s medical needs and any allergies they may have. The staff are aware of the allergies of the children in their class and across the school. When children go on school trips/food tasting days etc then parents are asked to fill in necessary paper work. If your child is required to carry an epi pen, then this must be in school.

What is the procedure if my child uses an inhaler?
All children will need to have two inhalers in school. These should both be labelled with the child's name and class and the dosage required. One will be kept for emergencies in the first aid room and the other will be kept with the child during the school day.

What should I do if I suspect my child is being bullied?
In the first instance of problems arising we ask that the child/parent speak to their teacher who can then advise accordingly. The Year Leader or Head Teacher may become involved if
necessary. A copy of our anti-bullying policy can be found on our website under Parents Information – Policies and Documents – Behaviour and Anti Bullying Policy.

Are there assemblies that parents can attend?
Children will take part in class assemblies twice over the year where families and friends are invited along to watch. Every Friday we have a celebration assembly where children may be issued with certificates for their achievements, celebrate their birthday and classes compete for the punctuality and attendance prizes. Families and friends are more than welcome to attend these. Our assemblies start at 9:00am.

When can I see my child’s teacher if I have an issue to discuss with them?
Teachers are outside at the end of the school day on a rota basis for general queries, where they can talk about any issues that you may have. If you wish to speak to a specific teacher then you can contact the office who will get a message to the teacher. Teachers will endeavour to contact you as soon as possible, usually after school teaching hours or sometimes lunch times. If you would prefer then you can make an appointment with them to come into school for a meeting. We have three parent evenings throughout the year to keep you informed also.

Can my child join the breakfast/after school club? Is there a waiting list?
Our breakfast and afterschool clubs are very popular and at times a waiting list may be in place. Please contact the office who will provide you with the necessary forms to fill in.

What clubs are available in school for my child to join? How can they get involved in sport?
There are many clubs on offer at St Laurence, such as gymnastics, dance, hockey, table tennis, football, basketball, gardening, chess, choir, cross country, athletics, rounders, cricket, karate. The clubs are sometimes seasonal and sometimes for specific year groups, which may be rotated around depending upon demand and suitability. Some clubs are run by outside agencies and may require a small fee.

How come my child doesn’t bring home the letters of the various clubs/sports/etc being held at school but other children do?
Children are made aware of the coming opportunities and letters are sent home with those who express an interest. If your child loses their letter then they can collect a new one from the racks outside the office.

Will I be told what sets my child is in?
Yes, we aim to let the children know which set they are in for Maths and English as soon as we have the information. This is reviewed at specific times throughout the year in order for us to ensure that children are in the correct set.

If I have a concern about my child’s development / behaviour can I approach the school for support / advice? If so, to whom should I go to in the first instance?
We seek to have a positive working relationship between home and school. In order for this to be possible, we encourage you to contact us as soon as you have any concerns. In the first instance we advise that you contact the class or set teacher to discuss the situation, they can
then advise you of the next step, or who else to talk to, if further support is needed. In certain circumstances you may want to speak directly to the management team or SENCO, please contact the office who can put you in touch with the relevant person.

What purse is suitable for the children to have? Where can we buy these from?
Girls will need to keep their money in a purse; we ask that this is a small over the shoulder purse that is blue or black in colour. Boys can keep their money in a wallet. Children are responsible for their own money and will not be able to look after any money for their friends.

Do the P.E tracksuit bottoms have to have the St Laurence emblem?
P.E tracksuit bottoms are to be navy blue in colour; they do not need to have the St Laurence emblem on them.

What colour socks should the children wear?
Girls are asked to wear white ankle socks, or knee socks (they are not to come over the knee). In the winter they can wear navy or black tights. Boys are required to wear black or grey socks. For P.E all children need to wear navy blue football socks. More information about our uniform can be found on our school website under Parent Information - Policies and Documents - Uniform Policy.

What if I am running late to pick up my child after school? Are there any procedures in place?
Staff will be outside at the end of school on a daily basis to ensure the children are collected safely and to answer any questions that parents may have. For their own safety, children are requested to wait in the front entrance if no one is there to collect them. If you know you are going to be late to collect your child then please telephone the office and they will ensure a message is sent to your child.