

Year 7-13 (Form 1-7) Education

Year 7-13 schools have the ability to offer the advantages of secondary schools to year 7 & 8 students while retaining the security offered by a home room environment.

1. Staffing

Perhaps the strongest point in favour of Year 7-13 schools is that all levels of the curriculum have access to senior staff who specialise in particular subject areas. Even in subjects where senior staff may not teach at junior levels, the close contact between staff ensures a common purpose and commonly accepted standards.

2. Specialist Resources

Within the Year 7-13 environment, junior pupils benefit significantly from the facilities and equipment at their disposal. Fully resourced science laboratories with apparatus not normally available in primary schools are an example of this.

3. Familiarity with Secondary Programmes

Socialising pupils into the secondary system at the age of eleven (Year 7) brings distinct advantages. It is possible to establish clear long term goals that are achievable within that institution. Academic requirements, school procedures and teacher expectations can be firmly established. Awareness of secondary qualifications and a career-oriented philosophy further advantage students.

4. Maintaining a Primary Approach

Year 7-13 schools invariably integrate primary approaches such as teaching mixed ability groups, emphasis on the form class and strong pastoral care within the secondary levels. This ensures that the strengths of primary education are maintained and integrated with the subject and staffing specialisation strengths of secondary schools.

5. More Diverse Subject Structure

The operation of a Year 7 & 8 area within a larger secondary school provides the Year 7 & 8 students with a more diverse range of experiences and skills upon which they can draw. A more comprehensive subject structure is available as well as access to a wide variety of extra-curricular activities.