

17<sup>th</sup> June 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

### **Arrangements for Transfer to High School 2021**

In September your son or daughter will become a member of the high school. If you are not already a parent of one of our students, I hope we are at the beginning of a close and fruitful partnership.

I also hope that I am not being over optimistic in setting out the arrangements for the beginning of this new year at the high school. We have all had to learn to be cautious as we make plans for the year ahead and you will understand if events mean that some of what follows cannot be realised.

#### **Year 8: Day 1**

Much as we would have liked to hold a transfer day during July, we have had to accept, following guidance from the government released on Tuesday afternoon, that the restriction on the mixing of different bubbles means that we have had to postpone it until the very beginning of the new school year. An introductory day has therefore been scheduled for Monday, 6<sup>th</sup> September 2021. There will be very few other students on the site and our new Year 8 will be able to find their way around without the general traffic of a normal school day. This will familiarise them with our site and the pattern of a typical timetable.

On arriving in time for an 8.50 start the students should make their way to the sports hall, where they will be met by their new tutors.

Students whose parents have put some credit on the cashless system for purchasing food will by lunchtime be able to buy food from the canteen. Alternatively, there will be facilities for students to eat their own packed lunch.

#### **Information Evenings for Parents and Carers**

The evening meetings which we had planned for parents and carers are one more casualty of the national measures to limit the spread of COVID 19. We cannot justify bringing members of so many families into meetings within our buildings.

Much of the information needed by a parent or carer new to the high school can be found on our website. I do encourage you to explore it, particularly the section under the tab Year 7 into Year 8 transition. A copy of the Year 8 Welcome Booklet is also attached to the e-mail copy of this letter which you should also receive. (If you think that we may have an incorrect e-mail address please get in touch.)

Whilst we have been working closely with the Middle School, for some parents and carers this would have been an opportunity to alert us to something in your child's experience or background about which we should know. To meet this need we are offering 10 minute appointments at the high school with the Heads of House or the SENDCO between 3.30 and 6.00 pm on Tuesday, 6<sup>th</sup> July. (Your child will have been told their House and their tutor group when Mr Brook and Mrs Lloyd Davies visit for an assembly on 1<sup>st</sup> July.) Please telephone the school reception on 01905 774421 if you would like to take advantage of this arrangement. On the other hand, you may feel that an e-mail to your child's new Head of House may be

sufficient for the time being. If you do choose to make contact by e-mail these are the addresses concerned:

Bulman House	Mrs Anna Mugridge	MugridgeAC@droitwichspahigh.worcs.sch.uk
D'Oliveira House	Mr Andrew Ward	WardAM@droitwichspahigh.worcs.sch.uk
Parks House	Mr Adam Kirk	KirkAJ@droitwichspahigh.worcs.sch.uk
Rowling House	Mr Adrian Quiney	QuineyAP@droitwichspahigh.worcs.sch.uk
Winslow House	Mr Andrew Hook	HookAK@droitwichspahigh.worcs.sch.uk

Your child's new tutor will also be in touch by e-mail before the end of term.

### **Summer School w/c 2<sup>nd</sup> August and w/c 9<sup>th</sup> August**

I am pleased that the Government has at last opened the possibility of a summer school to children who transfer at the beginning of Year 8 rather than, as is more common, a full year earlier. This means that we can offer to open our facilities to a Summer School for the weeks beginning 2<sup>nd</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> August.

The Summer School will run from 10.00am to 2.00 pm each day, Monday to Friday. Lunch will be provided; school uniform will not be expected. Each day will involve three sessions: one will involve a physical activity, one a creative activity and one a conventional subject activity. Members will work in groups, each one a dozen or so students in size. We shall do our best to make these reflect friendship groups. The sessions will all be run by members of the high school teaching staff.

Before we can take our plans any further we need to gauge the extent of interest in this scheme. If you would like your son or daughter to take advantage of one or both of these weeks, please complete this form by clicking on the link below:

[https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=cdJyXzS9Y0yZF8UZZlqALoFquGdYAntPuP\\_WLI8I1BtUQURUWDNPWTBPVihKQUk0M1JRR0I5RThUSC4u](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=cdJyXzS9Y0yZF8UZZlqALoFquGdYAntPuP_WLI8I1BtUQURUWDNPWTBPVihKQUk0M1JRR0I5RThUSC4u)

Everyone who returns a form before 5 pm on Thursday, 24<sup>th</sup> June will receive further details nearer to the time.

Yours sincerely,



Natalie Waters