Dear Parents and Carers,

Tutor Group and Transition Days

Ahead of the transition days on Friday 12th and Monday 15th July, 2024, we are writing to advise which tutor group your child will be joining when they start with us at Sheldon School. We are also writing to share information about the upcoming transition days and the New Parent and Carer Information Evenings.

Tutor Group

Tutor groups have been coordinated using information provided by primary schools and student friendship requests. Where possible, other requests have also been taken into consideration.

We hope that you and your child are happy with the tutor group that they have been placed in. Please be advised that tutor group arrangements are final. On the transition days, your child will spend time getting to know their tutor and the other students within their tutor group. We hope this will assist them in making new friends and feeling settled ready for September.

Transition Days

The two transition days for the new Year 7 cohort will be on **Friday 12th and Monday 15th July, 2024.** Your child should wear their primary school uniform on both days. We advise them to bring a pencil case and a bottle of water. On Friday, your child will also need to bring a packed lunch. Packed lunches will be provided for students who are entitled to Free School Meals. **If your child is entitled to Free School Meals and has special dietary requirements, please <u>click here</u> to complete a short form by 16:00 on Wednesday 10th July, 2024.** On Monday, a hot meal will be provided, free of charge, for all students; however, your child is welcome to bring a packed lunch if they would prefer. On both days, your child may also wish to bring a snack for breaktime.

On Friday 12th July, the new Year 7 cohort will be the only year group in school. They will be supported by our new team of prefects, who will be key role models for students from September. **Your child should arrive at main reception by 08:25**. From reception, students will be guided to the Year 7 Playground where they will be met by their tutor. **The day will finish at 15:00**.

On Friday, students will spend the day completing a range of different activities, including a tour of the school and team-building activities with their tutor and tutor group. Students will also have biometric fingerprints taken. Fingerprints will be linked to ParentPay accounts to enable items to be purchased from our food outlets. You should have received a letter about setting up your ParentPay account on 04/07/2024. Your child will not be able to purchase any items on Friday 12th July whilst we complete the necessary steps to set-up the system. Your child will be able to purchase items at breaktime on Monday 15th July if money has been made available on their ParentPay account.

On Monday 15th July, students will experience a more 'normal' day at Sheldon School. Prefects will continue to support the year group on this day, and some will be waiting in main reception from 08:15 to help guide students back to their tutor rooms for morning registration, if needed. Throughout the day, students will attend several lessons within their tutor groups, experiencing what learning is like in Science, Humanities and Performing & Expressive Arts. Students will also complete a New Group Reading Test. This test is to enable us to measure reading skills, which will provide valuable information to help us support students from September. It is not used for setting students. The test will last around 30 minutes and requires no prior preparation from students.

On Monday, **students will have an early finish at 14:30.** If your child will be travelling home with a sibling, they will be able to wait in the Refectory until 15:00. Siblings are encouraged to use the Refectory as a meeting place.

Please note, if you are bringing your child to and/or collecting them from school by car on either of the transition days, you will need to drop them off/pick them up in the **layby on Hardenhuish Lane**. **There will no parking available on the school grounds**. **There will also be no vehicle access to Reception.** This is with the exception of children who have a medical condition that affects their mobility. Please let us know in advance if this is the case. In addition, it is important to advise that **students are not able to use the school transport buses on transition days**.

If there are any queries or questions about the structure of the two transition days, please contact <u>mowen@sheldonschool.co.uk</u>.

New Parent and Carer Information Evenings

Alongside the Transition Days for students, we look forward to welcoming you to the New Parent and Carer Information Evenings on:

- Monday 15th July, 2024: Left Side.
- Tuesday 16th July, 2024: Right Side.

The evenings will run from 18:00 until 20:00, commencing in the main school hall.

The evenings will present an opportunity to meet Mr Lynch, Headteacher, and Mr Scourfield, Assistant Headteacher, alongside the wider transition and Year 7 team. You will also meet with your child's tutor and hear more about what Year 7 has in store for students at Sheldon School.

We are really looking forward to meeting the Class of 2029 as they embark on their Sheldon adventure, and hope they thoroughly enjoy the transition events.

Yours faithfully

Megan Owen Head of Year 7

Kathryn Avent Deputy Head of Year 7

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Bridget Collins Primary Liaison