



Monday, 04 May 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

We are delighted that your son/daughter will be attending Chepstow School in September and will begin their next phase of education with us. Whilst the climate is a little uncertain at present, we want you to be reassured that significant planning is underway to ensure that despite current circumstances, your child's transition remains our absolute priority.

Normally, we would be beginning our visits to our primary schools to meet our new students and to answer queries and questions that they have. Whilst this is not possible at present, our transition team have been liaising closely with Primary Headteachers in order to gather wellbeing, pastoral and attainment information to enable us to plan our provision and curriculum. Also, during this period of lockdown, Chepstow School staff and Primary staff have been working closely together at Thornwell Hub to support parents in our community and despite the unusual situation we find ourselves in, this has given us a rare opportunity to meet many parents and students who will be joining us in the future.

As part of our transition, we would like to offer our Year 6 students the opportunity to participate in a home learning project after May half term. This will be facilitated by 5 key members of staff from Chepstow School who will work closely with our Year 6 students. The purpose of this is to ensure that our new students identify as a year group and they have an equitable learning experience. More information about our project will be forwarded in due course.

At present, we still intend to run our Transition week as calendared. The home learning project that your child will have undertaken will feature during this time as well as other exciting activities. We have extended the transition period to enable us to maintain social distancing. Again, we will send further details on the specific days that your child will be with us in due course.

For your calendar, transition dates are as follows:

- Thursday 2nd July - Thursday 9th July: Transition visits to Chepstow School (TBC)
- Thursday 9th July : Parent Transition Evening 5pm-7pm

Over the next few weeks, we will send you information on joining our school and how we can support you during this time. Getting back to 'normal' is a challenge in itself and we are very conscious of the anxieties of our Year 6 students especially and we intend to support their wellbeing as an absolute priority. At the bottom of this letter, we have given you the contact details of our Transition Team to support you with specific questions or concerns you may have. As we cannot physically meet with Year 6 pupils at present, we are setting up



a student forum where you will find answers to questions that you have around uniform, form groups, learning and wider opportunities. You will be able to access this information via our Transition page on our website.

Finally, from Monday 7th –Wednesday 9th September, we intend to take our new Year 7 students on a residential trip to Biblins Youth Campsite as part of their induction. Can I ask you that you save the date and we will send on further information shortly.

We are very much looking forward to meeting our new students. Take care and stay safe. We will be in touch.

Warm wishes,

Emma Mellen
Assistant Headteacher

Useful Contact Details

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