4 June 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

We are looking forward to welcoming your child to Wath Academy in September 2020. Currently we are in the process of organising your child’s transition from primary school and we are determined to make the experience as smooth as possible under these unprecedented circumstances. Included with this letter are:

**Transition Booklet and Information Guide**

This booklet will give you key information, as well as an insight into many of our systems and processes which we use on a daily basis.

**Data Collection Form**

This document needs to be completed, signed and returned to main reception at Wath Academy. We have provided a pre-paid envelope. Please post this form by Friday 12 June 2020.

**Year 6 Induction Days**

As part of our Year 6 induction programme we would normally invite your child to a series of transition days at Wath Academy over the summer term. However, despite current difficulties, we are still hoping to be able to offer **a day** to each child from **Monday 29 June until Friday 3 July**. Our large building and site will enable us to meet social distancing guidance with 50 - 60 Year 6 students visiting each day, working in small groups. The table below shows which primary schools will visit on which day.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Date**  | **School group**  |
| 29/6/20 | Wath C of E, The Ellis Hemingfield, Wentworth  |
| 30/6/20 | Swinton Brookfield, Conisbrough Ivanhoe, Copley, Greasbrough, East Dene, Heather Garth, High View, Hooton Pagnell, Hoyland, Kilnhurst, Kings Oak, Mexborough Highwoods, Mexborough St John the Baptist, Monkwood, Oakhill, Sacred Heart, Sandhill, St Helen’s, St Joseph’s Rawmarsh, St Michael and All Angels, St Thomas’s, The Hill, West Melton, Worsbrough, Wombwell Park Street  |
| 1/7/20 | Wath Victoria, Thorpe Hesley, Windhill, Swinton Fitzwilliam, Swinton Queen, Dearne Carrfield, Upperwood, All Saints |
| 2/7/20 | Wath Central, Our Lady and St Joseph’s |
| 3/7/20 | Brampton The Ellis |

The day will begin at **8.20am** when the pupils should arrive at the front of school. Senior staff will be on duty ensuring social distancing guidelines are being followed. Additional staff will also be there to meet and greet the children and to supervise them throughout the day.

The purpose of the induction day will be to familiarise your child with the school and give them an opportunity to experience lessons in a typical school day. Students will receive a timetable on the first morning. They will be participating in a PE activity as part of their timetable so please ensure that your child has trainers to change into (your child will not need PE kit). Activities such as badminton, cricket nets and circuit training will allow us to ensure social distancing guidance is followed.

Your child will have lunch in our dining room and will need money to purchase a meal/snack and a drink. No more than £3 should be required. Pupils can also bring a packed lunch from home if they prefer.

**Your child will need to be in the school uniform they wear in their primary school.**

Your child will be dismissed at **2.30pm.** Please make sure that appropriate arrangements are made for the collection of your child. Your child will be brought out of the school gates to meet you. Please do not enter the school site beyond the green fence. Senior staff will be on duty ensuring social distancing guidelines are being followed.

If your child is **unable to attend** the transition day, please email enquiries@wathacademy.com to let us know not to expect them.

We will also be holding an additional transition day on **Friday 28 August 8:40am – 2:40pm**. This will give a further opportunity for your child to visit Wath Academy before officially starting in September. More information about this day will be sent out over the summer. Please put the date in your diary.

We look forward to welcoming your child on their allocated induction day and trust that they will have a valuable experience.

**Year 6 - Parents’ Evening**

We are still planning to deliver a Parents’ evening at **6:30pm – 8:30 pm on Monday 6 July 2020** for all parents or carers of pupils who will be starting at Wath Academy in September this year.

The evening will be held **online via Zoom** with speeches from the Principal, Executive Principal, Members of Senior Leadership Team and Academic and Pastoral Year Leaders. During the evening there will also be an opportunity to send in questions which we will answer during the presentations. Further details will be sent out in due course. For now please put the date and time, **6:30pm – 8:30pm 6 July 2020,** in your diary.

If you have any questions regarding either the Year 6 Induction Day or the Parents’ Evening, please contact Mrs Sharkey or Mr Senior on 01709 760222 or via email at enquiries@wathacademy.com

**Social Media – Facebook**

We recommend that you follow our Wath Academy Facebook social media platform where we will give out transition updates over the summer term. All official communication will be sent via post but the Facebook platform will give you instant updates.

**Subject preparation packs**

Subject preparation packs will be sent out in due course and will also be made available on our website. These preparation packs will give your son/daughter an insight into each subject and will enable them to engage in Year 7 work prior to joining Wath Academy.

**Uniform**

Wath Academy students must be in perfect uniform at all times, from leaving their home in the morning, until they return home. Whenever students are wearing the Academy uniform they are representing the Academy. If shoes or an item of uniform is damaged and there is a slight delay in replacing it, then the Academy will provide a new temporary replacement. If a student refuses to wear this item they will be sent home to rectify the issue or placed in a consequence room.

For a full guide to the Academy uniform please refer to our uniform policy on the Academy website and the accompanying Transition Booklet and Information Guide.

There are certain items of our uniform that can only be bought from specific providers. These items include: Academy tie, blazer with badge and our Academy approved skirt. These items are available to be purchased from either our own Academy shop or two other external providers:

* Pinders Schoolwear: purchases can be made from their two shops based in Rotherham or online at www.pindersschoolwear.com
* Prestige Printers: purchases can be made from their shop based in Swinton; further details on their website www.prestige-printers.co.uk

The Academy is introducing a new Academy skirt for September 2020. This will be the only skirt that students are permitted to wear. Of course, the Academy skirt will remain optional as students have the choice to wear trousers. The cost of this skirt is £14.99 or £17.99 dependent on size. As this is a new item of uniform for this academic year for all of our students, we do appreciate the financial burden that this can bring. We will be offering one free skirt per student who wishes to wear one in September.

The one free academy skirt (for any student wishing to wear one in September) will be available for collection from the academy site from **Monday 29 June until Friday 3 July**, between 9.00am and 4.00pm. There will be an additional opportunity on **Wednesday 15 July** for anyone who cannot make the previous dates. These dates are only for our new Year 7 students so that we can ensure social distancing guidelines are adhered to. Additional skirts can be purchased at other times via Pinders Schoolwear or Prestige Printers.

**Wednesday 2 September – First day**

Students will start the 2020 – 21 academic year on Wednesday 2 September. Students should arrive at school in correct uniform no later than 8:25am.

Yours sincerely

Mrs J Sharkey

Assistant Vice Principal