



THE WENSLEYDALE SCHOOL
& SIXTH FORM
LEYBURN

5 June 2020

Dear Parents/ Carers,

We are writing to you today to share details of the next stage of the transition process for your son/daughter.

As you will be aware, we have had to adapt our usual transition arrangements, owing to the Covid-19 pandemic and its impact on schools. Our SENDCo, Mrs Brosnan and I, would usually begin to visit primary schools at this time of year, to introduce ourselves and answer children's transition questions. Year 6 students would usually attend our school for a 2-day visit at the end of June, where they would have the opportunity to meet their tutors and other staff, experience some lessons and get to know the layout of the school before September. Whilst these visits cannot go ahead this year, please be assured that we are working hard to ensure that the composition of the three tutor groups reflect both primary school groupings and friendship groups. Any preferences you may have shared with us via the transition questionnaire are also being incorporated. Before half term, virtual meetings took place with staff from our feeder primary schools. Relevant information has been shared with us to help ensure your child's transition to secondary school is as seamless as possible.

If you have not managed to complete our Transition Questionnaire yet, please would you do so at your earliest convenience by clicking [here](#)

Question and Answer Virtual Meeting - Thursday 25 June 2020 at 7.00 pm

We are aware that students and Parents/Carers will have a lot of questions about moving up to secondary school, particularly this year. We are therefore inviting you and your child to a virtual Q&A meeting on Thursday 25 June 2020 at 7.00 pm. During the meeting, the Headteacher, Senior Leadership Team, SENDCo and myself will be available to answer any questions you may have.

The meeting will take place using the online virtual meeting platform, Google Meet. On Monday 8 June 2020, you will receive a calendar invitation to this meeting. Please RSVP to this invitation, so that we have a rough idea of how many people will be attending. To join the meeting on Thursday 25 June 2020, you will receive an email notification 15 minutes before the scheduled time. In this email there will be a link titled Join with Google Meet, which will direct you to the meeting. This can be accessed using a computer or by downloading the Google Meet app in advance, on a smartphone or tablet.

When you join the meeting, please ensure you **mute your microphone**, so that it does not interfere with the sound of the person who is presenting (the mute button can be found at the bottom of the screen). Should you be unable to join the meeting, please locate a recording, which will be added to the Google Classroom page to which your son/daughter now has access.

Google Classrooms

Attached with this letter, are your child's credentials to access both the school network and their school Google Mail email account. Please keep these details safe, as your child will need them to access our special Google Classroom transition pages. Once your child has logged into their email account, they will find a Google Classroom invitation waiting for them. Clicking on this will take them to a page where they will find all the other Year 6 students joining us in September. Here they will be able to post welcome messages to each other, as well as receive updates and important information from school. Interaction with their peers will quickly establish a sense of belonging and

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excitement at what lies ahead. We hope it will also allay any worries your child might have and ease the transition process as much as possible.

We expect tutor groups to be allocated within the next two weeks. At that stage, your child will receive another Google Classroom invitation, to a page specifically set up for their tutor group. In this virtual classroom, they will meet their tutor. I will be asking questions and setting fun activities for students to get involved with, so that they get to know each other and their tutor a little better before September.

Meet the Tutor & KS3 Progress Leader - Virtual Meeting

We would like to invite you and your son/daughter to a virtual meeting with their form tutor and myself. At this meeting, you and your child will have the opportunity to ask any individual questions you may have but did not want to ask them in the larger Q&A forum. Your child's Form Tutor will be your first point of contact in school and establishing positive 2-way communication with them is essential to your child's general wellbeing. Usually, you would meet the form tutor several times during the transition process and begin to establish a rapport. Despite the challenging circumstances this year, we strongly encourage you to participate in the virtual meeting, so that we can settle any nerves or niggles promptly.

Meet the tutor meetings will take place within a 2-week period commencing 29 June 2020. So that we can schedule your 10-minute meeting, please click [here](#) to indicate convenient dates and times. Once we have collated this information, you will receive a Google Meet invitation. To join the meeting, please follow the same instructions as outlined for the Q&A meeting.

Uniform

Usually, as part of our transition process, our uniform suppliers, [Uniform Direct](#), open a pop-up shop at school. As we are unable to do that this year, we have been asked to share the following details with you:

- Please order online as early as possible
- Telephone advice is available regarding sizing if required
- A prepaid label is provided on request if an incorrect size has been ordered, or a child has a growth spurt before the start of school
- Free delivery is available on all orders over £25
- All returned items are steamed and isolated prior to resale

There are a few changes to uniform this year for our new Year 7 students. The first change is that from September we have a new v-neck school jumper with a contemporary grey logo. **The old sweatshirts have been removed from our uniform list and can no longer be purchased or worn.** The next change is the school shirt/blouse. From September, our uniform changes to a blue and white striped shirt/blouse. The girls' blouse has a reverse collar and will be worn **without** a tie. The boys' striped shirt will be worn open-necked, with the top button only undone and again **without** a tie. **The old pale blue shirts and ties can no longer be purchased or worn.** Three new items have been added to the PE uniform list: a navy blue skort (for girls who prefer the look of a skirt rather than shorts), running leggings (girls) and a slim leg track pant (unisex).

We appreciate this letter contains a lot of information, but we wanted to share our plans with you as early as possible. We hope you will be assured that we are doing everything we can to make your child's transition to secondary school a happy and memorable chapter in their life. If you or your child have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me via email at joshua.hadfield@wensleydaleschool.net.

We look forward to meeting you virtually soon.

Yours sincerely

J. Hadfield

Mr J Hadfield

Key Stage 3 Progress Leader