



DURRINGTON HIGH SCHOOL

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Co-Headteachers: **Shaun Allison**
Chris Woodcock

June 2023

Dear Parent/Carer of our new year 7 students,

Welcome to Durrington!

I am delighted to contact you again to share with you key information about the upcoming transition day on 5th July 2023. As is normal, our transition day (part of a wider week of transition activities) will take place at the same time as all other schools in the local area. Whilst we appreciate that for some children the prospect of transitioning to a new (and larger) secondary school may be daunting we really do want the day to be as positive as possible, the result being that your child comes back excited and enthused about starting with us this coming September. Below you will find key details about the day for both yourselves and your child/children.

Your child will be in tutor group 7 (*Please see individual letter*).

Year 7 Transition

Recognising that we want to provide the best transition for your child as possible we are really excited to have adapted our pastoral structure this year, for the first year, the transition year will be led by Miss Vaughan. Miss Vaughan is new to Durrington but is a specialist in working at the year 6-7 transition having supported this role annually in her current position. She will be supported by two deputy head of years, a pastoral manager and a team of 13 form tutors. This means that year 7 will not immediately join one of our company teams but will “graduate” into one of these as part of their end of year celebrations in July 2024. Year 7 students will start at Durrington all wearing the black tie with pink seahorse in their first year with all other uniform matching that of other students.

The day for students

Students should arrive at the front of school (The Boulevard entrance) no later than 8:50am, wearing their current school uniform. They should bring a bag containing pens, pencils, water bottle and a packed lunch but there is no need to bring any PE kit. If they bring a phone then it will need to be switched off. During the day, they will do a range of activities which will help them get a feel for the school as well as meeting their new form and form tutor. They will have a tour of the school and spend time settling in, so they can be ready and confident for September. The day will finish at 2:15pm, at which time students will be dismissed from the front of school. If you are dropping off / collecting from the front car park, please be aware that exams are taking place so minimal noise would be appreciated. When dismissed, students should make their way home immediately and not wait for friends/siblings in other year groups.

In the evening

Our parent/carer welcome event will run on the evening of transition day (5th July between 6-7pm). Due to numbers and capacity (and as per previous communications) we would politely ask that, unless there are childcare issues, the evening remains only for parents/carers. Mr Allison and Mr Woodcock (our new Co-Headteachers who have been recently appointed from within our current staff), along with Miss Vaughan, are looking forward to meeting you and sharing with you how excited we are about the time your child will spend as part of our brilliant school over the next 5 years.

Pride

Perseverance

Aspiration

Kindness

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After this short introduction there will also be the opportunity to meet with as many of the new form tutors as possible in year 7 as well as representatives from the pastoral team who will be involved day-to-day in your child's care and support. There will be plenty of opportunities for you to ask questions (if you are a new parent to Durrington) or just to meet other parents/carers and find out a bit more about the school.

We really do look forward to meeting each and every one of you and your children. Above all else it is really important not to worry (parents/carers or children). No question is too small to ask about transition day so please do feel free to contact me on nbridgeman@durring.com should you have a query.

Kind regards,

Mrs N Bridgeman-Sweeney
(Outgoing) Transition Leader

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