



15th June 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

Following the announcement last week about Year 6 transition days across the city being cancelled, we would like to reassure you that we still have plenty in the pipeline to help make your son's move to secondary school a smooth one, and that we will remain in regular contact with you in the coming weeks to ensure that your son is ready for September. Our Year 6 transition last year was conducted during the full lockdown and was nevertheless a hugely successful one, so we know that this year's will be even more so.

Summer School

Thank you for the overwhelming response that we have had to our initial Summer School survey. This will be an even more important event now, as it will be the first time that many Year 6 students will have been to King's Norton Boys' School, and we are anticipating a full house. With this in mind, we want to share some more information about the aims of the Summer School so that you are clear about its purpose.

The Government has advised that Summer School should:

- help students to build a community with their fellow students
- help them forge relationships with new teachers
- help them to become familiar with their new school environment
- include both academic and enrichment activities.

The programme that we have planned (see draft example) includes a mixture of both. In addition to this, we want Year 6 students to get a flavour of what makes King's Norton Boys' School unique, so there will be at least one opportunity to experience Outdoor Education activities, such as our climbing wall, with our Outdoor Education teacher, Mr Julian. We are also mindful of the impact that the pandemic has had on children's wellbeing, hence there are wellbeing activities built into the programme too. The week will end with a celebration event, to which parents will be invited, as we know that schools working in partnership with parents is fundamental to children thriving with us, and we know how nerve-racking it can be, for parents as much as students.

As we are anticipating that most parents will want their son to attend the Summer School programme, it is vitally important that you complete the consent form attached and return this to us as soon as possible. There are two dates available, with students being required to attend for a full week, but we may not be able to accommodate all preferences (if you have

any) due to numbers. Therefore, these will be allocated on a 'first come, first served' basis. We ask that if you do *not* have a preference and are able to attend in either week, that you are flexible regarding this. As soon as we get your completed form, any preferences will be logged, and you will receive confirmation of this within two working days, so that you can continue to plan your summer activities around this. It is vitally important, once your allocated week is confirmed, that you let us know of any days that your son is unable to attend as we want as many children as possible to be involved, and we can offer those days out to others.

Transition Zone

If you haven't already done so, please visit the Transition Zone on our website, www.knbs.co.uk, which will be updated again later this week. This has lots of information about the move to secondary school, as well as videos from key staff, more of which will be added in ongoing updates between now and the end of term.

Transition Evening 7th July

You will, we are sure, be pleased to know that this virtual event will still be taking place on Wednesday 7th July from 6-7pm. It will take the same format as the virtual Open Evening, back in September, and you will be able to ask questions 'live' during the event. You will receive more information about this in due course.

Drop-In Session Week Commencing 19th July

We are tentatively planning an afternoon drop-in session for Year 6 students and their parents in the last week of term, commencing 19th July, on either the Monday or Tuesday, but whether this goes ahead or not will be determined by the national and local pictures relating to Covid and the advice of Public Health Birmingham. While we are fully aware of the importance of Year 6 transition, our priority remains keeping our school community and all of our stakeholders safe. We will update you on this much nearer the time.

Year 6 Student Pack

Your son will also be receiving a pack of bits and bobs from us in the next week or so because we don't want parents having all the fun! This will include a letter from one of our current Year 7 students and a copy of our brand-new Year 6 Transition Magazine, amongst other things. This will be addressed to them directly so please encourage them to watch out for it in the post.

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Children with Special Educational Needs and/or Disability (SEND)

Transitions for children with SEND and their parents can be particularly worrisome, but we know the importance of sharing information in a timely manner and ensuring that we are fully aware of their needs. If your son has an Education Health Care Plan (EHCP) or is on the SEND database for SEND Support at his primary school (you will be aware of this if it is the case), we will already have been notified of this, and one of the Learning Support team will be in touch with you in the next few days to update you on additional plans for transition, so please do not worry.

Parent Pay

We are a cashless school, so all payments, including for lunch, school trips and music lessons, are taken via Parent Pay, an online payment platform. You will receive an individual log in for this in July, in good time for you to make any payments ready for September.

While we had all hoped for a Year 6 transition that was more normal than last year, hopefully, you will feel reassured that there is still plenty in place to help you and your son to feel prepared for September. You will be receiving regular communication from us between now and then but if you do have any specific questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch via enquiry@knbs.co.uk.

Yours faithfully,



Vanessa Bartlett
Assistant Head Teacher



Phoebe Bishop
Head of Year 7