

27th August 2020

Year 7 Induction Day Information (Wednesday 2nd September 2020)

Dear Year 7 Parents/Carers

We trust this message finds you and your family safe and well. We just wanted to send you a brief message about what to expect next Wednesday (2nd September) for the Year 7 induction day. Due to Covid-19, it has been a very strange few months for all of us. We are delighted to (finally!) be able to welcome your child into our school.

Please see below for details:

Arrival

- Please aim for your child to arrive for 8.15a.m. We will have staff on hand at the front of the school to welcome them. We fully appreciate that some may feel a little anxious. This is completely normal. We must ask that parents/carers do not come onto the school site. Please say your goodbyes on the pavement outside rather than on the school site. We know this may be an emotional day but we need to make sure all new students are safe and can see staff clearly
- Your child will need to enter by the main visitor reception next to the "old" St Edmund's hall. There will be many staff on hand to welcome your child. We will have duty members of staff on the pavement opposite this entrance to answer any parent/carer questions. They will be in high-viz jackets so you'll be able to spot them easily! If we are unable to answer your query there and then, we will take your details and ring you back

Uniform

- Please do make sure your child wears school uniform. We are aware that some of your child's uniform may not have arrived, particularly the blazers. Please do not worry about this – just send your child with a signed note. We would trust everyone has managed to get a shirt, tie, trousers/skirt and school shoes (black, no logos and able to take shoe polish). Hair should be natural colour and jewellery should conform to our uniform rules. Full uniform details can be found on the websites

Equipment

- Please ensure your child has a school bag with their pencil case, a waterproof coat, a packed lunch and a filled water bottle. If they are travelling by bus they will need a face mask and a sealable bag to place it in. They may want to bring hand gel, but there are plenty of hand gel stations situated around the school
- If you would like your child to bring a mobile phone into school, please be mindful that the school does not compensate for loss or damage. Please also be reminded that mobile phones are not to be used in school unless the teacher gives express permission for them to be used. Mobile phones will need to be turned off on arrival and kept in bags. If you need to

contact your child during the school day, please ring our reception on 01722 328565 and not your child's mobile phone

Food and drink

- For the first week back, Year 7 students will need to bring in a packed lunch each day (unless they are in receipt of free school meals). Over the course of the week, we will get Year 7s registered with their catering accounts. Parent Pay will also be enabled by the end of week 1 so that from week 2 students will be able to purchase a packed lunch from the dining hall. *Students entitled to free school meals will be able to pick up a packed lunch from the dining hall from Wednesday 2nd September*

Activities for the day

- This is a staff and Year 7 day only. We will have the first two periods as tutor based activities. After break, your child will then go to their timetabled lessons 3, 4 and 5. The school day will finish at 2.50pm.
 - During periods 1 and 2 the activities will include
 - Issuing timetables and admin
 - Information about staying safe/school rules for Covid-19
 - Getting to meet new friends
 - Exploring the school
 - During the day students will have a socially distanced assembly with important safety information as well as a welcome to the school from Mrs Bull.

End of School day

- Please could we again ask that parents/carers do not come onto the school site at the end of the school day. We will be doing an orderly dismissal. Those walking or biking home will leave the site at 2.50pm. Those waiting for buses will be directed to wait in a supervised bus queue area. If you are planning on driving to school to collect your child please be reminded there is no parking on the school site. Church Road can get very congested and our local residents have told us they will be taking action to prevent cars from parking along the road. It may be advisable to try to park a little distance away from the school and arrange for your child to walk to meet you

Things parents/carers can do to help

- Please put your child's name on everything that they bring to school including their bag, uniform, lunchbox and water bottle
- Parents bringing in medication for their child will need to label clearly any medication, hand it in to the visitors' reception and mark it for the attention of Jenny Smith, Medical Officer. This is the one exception for parents/carers being allowed on site on that first morning.
- Please do not be worried. Most children, even if a little tearful saying goodbye, are fine within seconds! A quick exit is always best, but we do appreciate that this Term is a little different after such an unsettled time recently
- Do keep an eye on our Twitter and Facebook feed on the websites during the day, as we will be posting pictures of how they are getting on! These sites are also the best places to go for up to the minute information
- You should have received an email last week inviting you to activate your SIMS Parent App. If you have not received this yet, please contact office@wyvernsteds.org

We very much look forward to welcoming your child next Wednesday.

From all the staff and Wyvern St Edmund's