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25 June 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Preparations for your child's arrival in September are well under way. Over the past few months, we have been communicating with your child's primary school and they have provided us with all the information we need in order to ensure a smooth transition.

As previously shared, Year 6 Transition Day and Welcome Evening for parents and their Year 6 child take place on **Thursday 3rd July**.

Parents/Carers - What action do you need to take?

There are two actions we would like you to complete before September:

1. ParentPay Account Set-Up

Many payments for school items throughout the school year, including trips, are managed through ParentPay.

Next week, you will receive an email from <u>admissions@wallingfordschool.com</u> with a username, password and instructions for setting up ParentPay. We ask that parents set this account up as soon as possible to facilitate the following:

Setting up your child's school meal account – Please add funds to this prior to your child starting in September. Your child will then be issued with a catering card on their first day of school which enables them to purchase from the school canteen. Please note we recommend setting up Auto Top-Up to ensure the balance of the account remains in credit. If another parent/carer needs to be added, please contact the school office in September.

If your child was eligible for free school meals at primary school, this will continue automatically in September. However, you must still set up a ParentPay account as you may wish to pay for other items during the school year such as trips or top up funds for purchases beyond the Free School Meal entitlement.

Purchasing a calculator – please purchase a scientific calculator before your child starts school. You
will see the required calculator on your ParentPay account as an option to purchase. The calculators will
be handed out to your child at school within the first few weeks.

2. Uniform can be ordered from our uniform supplier. Full details explaining how to order and all uniform regulations including acceptable footwear, can be found on our Rising Year 7 area of the website. Please go to joining us/rising year 7 transition.

Don't forget to purchase a tie. Ties will be given out on the first day of school when each child will receive one matching their house colour.

We would recommend that uniform is ordered by the end of July to guarantee stock availability and delivery ahead of September.

We are holding our Nearly New Uniform Sale on **Thursday 10 July 3.45pm – 5.00pm** at the school Leisure Centre. Monitory donations only.

Transition Day

We are looking forward to welcoming your child on **Thursday 3rd July**. Here are a few details that will allow you to plan for the day:

- Where possible, please encourage your child to meet friends and walk to school. We are unable to accommodate parents on the school site other than dropping off in the bus bay.
- Children should wear their primary school uniform and arrive for an 8.40am start. They will be helped by staff and our prefects to the Leisure Centre where they will be placed in a group for the day.
- Your child should bring a water bottle (no juice), a school bag/rucksack and a pencil case with a pen, pencil, ruler and eraser in it. PE kit is not required on Transition Day.
- Children should not bring a mobile phone with them to school
- Your child is welcome to bring a packed lunch or enjoy lunch from our school canteen. There will be no charge for lunch on Transition Day. The meal provided will be Pasta Bolognaise with a vegetarian and gluten free version available.
- The end of the school day is 3.05pm. Please note that the school site is closed to traffic at this time to ensure the safety of all students and accommodate the school buses. Should your child be travelling by car, please arrange to meet them at a point away from the school site. If your child is walking, in line with our safeguarding arrangements, please wait outside the school gates rather than coming onto the school site. Children will be supported to leave the site safely.

Welcome Evening for Parents and their Year 6 child - Thursday 3rd July - 6pm to 7pm

We hope that as many of you as possible can join us for this event. Please arrive for a 6pm start in the main hall. Mr Marston, Headteacher, will join me in sharing more information with you about what your child has to look forward to in Year 7.

Further Information

Please visit our <u>Rising Year 7 page</u> on our website for information on school lockers, as well as resources to support transition including information on:

- Useful Links from the Anna Freud Centre: Moving Up! a transition video for students and a guide for parents/carers to supporting transition
- SEND Transition information for parents of a child with a Special Educational Needs
- Social Story shares more about what a day at school looks like and the similarities and differences between primary and secondary school

As always, please do contact us should you have any questions at: admissions@wallingfordschool.com

Best wishes, Fin Lewis

Deputy Head and Transition Lead

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