

# Parents: Year 6 to 7 Transition

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The transition from primary to secondary school is an important milestone in the lives of children and their families. At the Barbara Priestman Academy we pride ourselves on providing our new students and their families with a smooth and extensive transition program where students arrive on their first day in September excited about the next chapter of their education, rather than feeling apprehensive.

We want all students who choose our school to have all of the opportunities necessary so that they develop into wonderful adults who lead fulfilled, happy and purposeful lives. We aim to this from their very first visit. We will support them to develop new relationships with adults and other children and get used to their new routines and school organisation.

A **'Welcome Letter'** will be distributed after February half term, welcoming students and families to our school and confirming all those important details of the transition process.

A **'Welcome Evening'** – we plan to host a welcome evening on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March where you will find out about our transition activities and get to visit our school and meet the team of staff who your child will be working with in September. You will also find out which member of Barbara Priestman staff will be your key person throughout the transition process, visiting your child's primary school and meeting with you in a family meeting. This helps us build positive relationships from the start. You will be given photographs of key areas of the school and school staff during the visit so you can use social stories at home with your child during the transition period.

## **Liaising with the Primary Schools**

In between March and May a key member of staff from Barbara Priestman will visit our feeder primary schools and will work very closely with your child's Year 6 teacher and school SENDCO to ensure that we receive all the required information to support your child's transition. We like to find out the key strategies your child needs to support them at this big time of change.

## **Liaising with families**

In March and May, after we have visited your child in school and met their school staff, we will invite each family to come to school for an appointment. We will use this opportunity to complete paperwork and find out any key information

that you want to share with us or discuss in more detail, such as medication and care plans. You are welcome to bring your child on this day and they will be able to go into a small group environment while you have time to meet with the key member of staff.

### **Year 6 Family Transition Morning – Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2020**

In June, you and your child will be invited to a transition morning where they will have the opportunity to be part of an assembly, experience exciting lessons with staff they will have in September and sample the wonderful food we have at Barbara Priestman. You will also be able to talk to the chef team about your child's dietary needs. Our Curriculum is designed to spark students' curiosity & interest to learn about the World around them and know how to make it a better place for themselves and others; we want them to experience this on their first transition morning with us.

### **Year 6 Transition Small Group Visits – June**

In June your child will be invited to visit the school as part of a small group. This may be with other students from your child's primary school or it may not. We will be looking at class groups and bringing children who we think will get on well together, academically and socially, in a class. They will come in for one morning and one afternoon. We ask that you bring them in and collect them at the agreed times. Students and families will be given a visual timetable ready for the 25<sup>th</sup> June and the 2<sup>nd</sup> July.

### **Year 6 Transition Days**

On Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> June and Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> July we will have transition days where all of the children in year 6 will come to spend the whole day in school. They will come into the school building in the same way that they will in September, have a full day of timetabled lessons, experience break time and lunch time and the end of the day routine.