

Dear Parent / Carer,

Re: 2020 Year 6 Transition to GSHS

I hope that this letter continues to find you and your families all safe and well. As our local Primary Schools start to welcome some Yr6 students back in to school for the remainder of this term, we are looking forward to safely welcoming some of our Yr10 & Yr12 students into school for some face to face support, whilst continuing to plan for a wider re-opening when restrictions allow.

We continue to gather information from our Primary Schools in preparation for your child's transition to us here at Great Sankey High School and we are currently shaping our new Yr7 forms and Houses. Allocating 375 students across the 12 Form groups in our 6 Houses, ensuring balance of different groups and taking all of the Primary information on board re: working groups, is like a multifaceted Rubik's cube for our Transition Team, but a challenge they enjoy!

As these Form groups are finalised, you will receive confirmation as to which House and Form your child is in and, most importantly, who your child's Head of House and Form Tutor is. Typically, you would then have the opportunity to meet with your child's Form Tutor and Head of House at our Transition Information Evening, although the current restrictions placed upon us mean we are having to work a little differently and be more creative to ensure you have the same opportunity to access all of the information you may need.

We have split our usual one evening event into a phased approach to ensure you can access as much support and information as possible in preparation for September:

Phase 1 – Transition Information Evening:

I will be hosting a remote live stream Transition Information Evening this year on **Tuesday 7th July at 6:30pm** and you will also have the opportunity to hear from Mr Shannon, our Headteacher, and other members of our Pastoral Team.

You will be able to access the live stream by using this link, which will also be accessible via the home page on our school website: <https://stream.meet.google.com/stream/c6ca8ea5-7af9-43cf-a225-89b2df05c08b>. You do not need to download any specialist software or app as this live stream can be accessed on any internet enabled device. A recording will also be uploaded onto our website if you are unable to join the live stream and wish to re-watch at a later time.

Phase 2 – Meet your Head of House & Form Tutor:

During our Transition Information Evening above, we will also provide details of how we will structure contact from House Teams and our Yr7 Form Tutors so you have the chance to 'meet' remotely with these key staff in smaller groups. This will be via a Google Meet session and you will have the opportunity to interact directly with the members of your House Team, including a structured Q&A session.

Phase 3 – Direct 1:1 contact:

If you have any additional concerns following the above events and you wish to speak directly with a member of the House Team, we will schedule 1:1 appointments for follow up phone calls or a remote video meeting.



Form Tutors will have access to your child's completed '**Transition 2020 Passport**' and to date we have had just over 300 completed passports. I thank you for taking the time to complete these with your child as it is a starting point in our staff getting to know your child and building the blocks for a positive working relationship. If you have yet to complete yours, please do so by accessing the link on our school website in the '**2020 Transition Support**' section.

This area has been updated with a copy of our September 2020 Parent's Guide and our updated Uniform Guide. To support this, I have also enclosed a copy of our uniform update to parents from our Chair of Governors, following parental consultation this year. I have also enclosed a voucher detailing how to claim the referenced 40% discount on the first skirt purchased and we have been informed that the Warrington Schoolwear Centre has re-opened as well as online via the Alpha Wear website.

Our Tech Team are in the process of uploading an interactive video tour of GSHS which you can access with your child to familiarise themselves with the different areas of school. There is also a quiz alongside this interactive tour for you to complete with your child to make the interactive tour more fun and meaningful.

They are also posting an update from Mrs Clemson, our school Librarian, on what our Learning Resource Centre has to offer, suggested books for your child to read and a Summer Stories feature for your child to recommend a good read to others!

To our new Year 7 students: It would be great to hear about what you have been reading and you will see when you join us that staff have posters on their doors highlighting what they're currently reading. I have just finished, and thoroughly enjoyed, '*Rebel Ideas*' by Matthew Syed and have just started reading his book, '*You Are Awesome - Find Your Confidence and Dare to be Brilliant at (Almost) Anything*', with my children at home. I will keep you posted on what they think about it!

Update: Admissions Data Collection and Medical Information Booklet

Please also find enclosed a copy of our Admissions Data Collection and Medical Information Booklet. Although we had originally planned for this to be completed as an online document, due to technical issues linking the information to our SIMS database, we have reverted to a manual entry.

We ask that this is completed as fully and accurately as possible and returned to us here by **Monday 6th July**. This information is important to us to ensure we have accurate emergency contact details and medical information for your child, as well as ensuring that we are compliant from a GDPR perspective. Please post this **FAO Transition Team** to the school address overleaf.

If you have yet to do so, can I please encourage you to follow our social media feeds, where you will receive regular updates from school and key links to information shared with parents: You can find us on Twitter - @GreatSankeyHS and on Facebook – Great Sankey High School.

Please continue to stay safe and we look forward to "*meeting*" you on Tuesday 7th July for our Transition Information Evening. If, however, in the meantime you have any queries regarding the information enclosed or concerns you wish to discuss further, please do not hesitate to contact us here at school.

Yours sincerely,
Paul Masher



Deputy Headteacher