



Rawmarsh Community School



Executive Headteacher: Helen O'Brien BSc. Hons.
Headteacher: Matthew Turton BA.
Associate Deputy Headteacher: Mark Conlin BSc. Hons.

MTN/JRO

5th June 2020

Re: Amended Transition Arrangements

Dear Parent

I wrote recently with my decision to suspend the June “rollover” this year and my intention to welcome our Year 7 pupils on Wednesday 2nd September as they begin their journey with us at Rawmarsh Community School; this is all dependent upon government decision making.

All Year 7 students should anticipate three days of induction activities in September including getting to know their new classmates, finding their way around school, and learning about what school life is like at Rawmarsh. However, we will not wait until September to put plans in place to ensure students are ready to begin their secondary education. Below is a detailed outline of the activities we propose to put in place from now until the Summer holidays. As you will be aware, some of the initiatives listed below have already taken place.

Initiatives prior to the summer holidays will include:

1. **Parental Engagement Newsletters** – Initially sent to introduce ourselves and inform parents of some of the key messages that we would have addressed during our final transition evening. Additional newsletters will be sent fortnightly to ensure regular and meaningful communication. These newsletters will be from the Headteacher and Head of Year and will highlight the good work happening at RCS and challenge students to complete engaging transition activities.
2. **Parental Information Video** – A video led by the Head of Year that goes alongside the initial newsletter. More videos will be posted online through podcasts to ensure parents are kept up to speed on current events happening at school.
3. **Google Assemblies** – Head of Year will record assemblies each week during the normal transition phase. These assemblies will be posted online and e-mailed to primary schools. Assembly topics will focus heavily on promoting the Rawmarsh Pledge.
4. **Tutor Grouping** – All tutor groups have been sorted and we will be informing primary schools in due course.
5. **Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) and Q&A Sessions** – Head of Year and transition co-ordinator will create an online resource for FAQ at RCS for new parents. This will focus on reassuring parents about the challenges ahead for students who make the move from primary to secondary. This will then lead onto a Q&A session with parents.
6. **Thematic online events** – will take place to challenge students. These will be similar to the enrichment activities students have had to complete during lockdown for all year groups. For example, PE Challenge.

Rawmarsh Community School
Monkwood Road, Rawmarsh, Rotherham, S62 7GA
Tel: 01709 710672 Fax: 01709 710078
Email: rcsmail@rawmarsh.org Web: www.rawmarsh.org

7. **Virtual Tour and Quiz** – A virtual tour of the school will be planned for students and parents with a follow up Google Form quiz posted online so students can familiarise themselves with school.
8. **Meet the Tutor event** – This will take place online and be led by each individual tutor. Parents and students will log on to a Google Hangout and watch a short presentation followed by Q&A.

In addition to the above initiatives, we will endeavour to complete visits to primary schools to introduce ourselves more formally. All students who need additional support during this time will have access to our SEND department and our Family Support Service.

I hope you are all safe and well during this unprecedented time and I look forward to welcoming all our new intake of students as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely

Matthew Turton
Headteacher