

22 June 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

**Re: Year 6/7 Transition to Springfield School**

As families will know, on 14 June the Prime Minister announced that Step 3 restrictions will stay in place until 19 July 2021; consequently, the DfE advised schools that 'traditional transitional and open days are unlikely to be feasible this academic year'. Therefore, and with regret, I am writing to advise you that the transition activities that had been planned for the week beginning 5 July will no longer be able to take place.

While we hope that many restrictions will lift on 19 July, a significant number of the Year 6 pupils joining us from our different feeder schools are involved in pre-planned events during the final week of term, including trips and visits, which we would not want them to miss. Concern also remains regarding the prudence of mixing pupils from different class and school 'bubbles' together for full days so close to the end of term.

We have therefore decided to make the first day of next term (for pupils) – Friday, 3 September – the key transition day for pupils joining Year 7 in the school. With the exception of Year 11, other pupils will not be on site during that day and so Year 7 pupils will be able to meet each other, meet key staff, orientate themselves around the site and participate in transition activities with the school environment being less busy than on a normal school day. We operated this system last September and it worked well for the staff and pupils involved.

Subject to restrictions being lifted, we hope to offer a brief opportunity for parents and pupils to meet their Tutor during the late afternoon of Tuesday, 20 July. This will be subject to the school's COVID19 risk assessment at the time, which will be based on formal updates to school specific guidance; kindly note that we are likely to have to operate this in small groups with a limit on the number of parents in attendance, as well as stick to a timed rota.

During the summer break Mrs Byerley, the Head of Achievement for Year 7, and Mr Dennett, the SENCo, will be meeting with some of our children with SEND to show them around the school site and support their adjustment to the secondary environment prior to the formal transition day. This will take place on Wednesday, 1 September and arrangements will be confirmed in liaison with the link staff / SENCos in our feeder schools and directly with the families concerned.

We are also hoping to run a week long summer school (funded by the DfE) open to pupils who are joining our Year 7 in September. Working in partnership with Active8 Minds, we intend to run a week of engaging activities including sports, creative workshops, literacy development and numeracy support. The summer school will take place during the week beginning 23 August. Places will be limited and the school/Active8 Minds will write to you with further details regarding how to book onto the summer school in due course.



Thursday, 23 September will provide a further opportunity for parents to meet their child's Tutor and review their child's first experience of secondary school in person.

For all of the aforementioned events we will publish further information as soon as arrangements are confirmed and ask for your patience in the meantime.

I would take this opportunity to politely draw your attention once more to the induction page of the school's website where we post updates relating to transition and where we will post a screencast of basic information for families before 19 July.

<https://springfield.uk.net/index.php/school-life/year-6-7-induction>

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to get in touch with a member of the Year 7 Team. We look forward to meeting our new pupils and yourselves over the coming months.

Yours sincerely

Ms S F Spivey  
Headteacher, Springfield School  
CEO, The De Curci Trust