

May 2020

Dear Parent / Carer

Transition at Walton Academy

I am writing to welcome you to Walton Academy. We are very excited about welcoming you in person when we are able to do so. Normally at this time of year we would write to our Year 6 children and their parents to invite them to our transition week at Walton, however, in these strange and unprecedented times we are currently not in a position to do that.

We are able to tell you all the information you need to know to ensure that your child has a smooth and successful transition to Walton Academy. This year our transition pack which accompanies this letter is bigger and better than ever to make you and your child feel really welcome even if we are unable to do this in person. The pack contains the following key items; please do ensure you read them all carefully:

- Essential Guide to Walton – this contains everything you need to know ahead of your child starting with us
- Introduction and welcome message from the Head of House and pastoral team:
<https://youtu.be/5hIkHxt0y1w>
- Important pastoral forms – these need to be completed and posted back or dropped off at the Walton Academy reception prior to the summer holidays

At this stage we are unable to confirm whether students will be able to join us prior to the summer for transition, but we will, of course, update parents, children and primary schools with this information once we are in position to do so. We have been very busy planning at Walton during this time and if we are not able to have students in the academy during the Summer Term we do have a transition plan ready for the first week of term in September 2020.

Year 7 students are due to start the new academic year on Wednesday 2nd September 2020. We begin our Autumn Term with a staggered start so this will mean only Year 7, Year 11 and Year 12 students are in school on this first day which will give your child time to settle in and find their way around the academy. During the first 3 days we have planned various activities including team building / orienteering and taster lessons to make them feel welcome and ensure they settle into academy life as quickly as possible.

Your child will be supported by our pastoral team and student leaders during their initial days within the academy to ensure they enjoy and get the most out their first few days with us.

We also have a dedicated Transition tab on our Walton Academy website under the 'Admissions' section. This area has been especially updated for our new intake for September 2020 so that you have electronic access to all the information you need. This will be updated throughout the Summer Term, the link is below:

<https://www.walton-ac.org.uk/admissions/year-6-transition-information/>

Information with regards to tutor and House groups will be delivered to students and parents after May half term, students will know prior to September who their Head of House and tutor will be.

Further information will be sent to parents once we have definite government guidance for schools reopening and we are able to confirm our plans, this will include details of a meeting for parents which will either take place in the Summer Term or September.

If you have any specific questions or queries you wish to discuss, please contact myself, Mrs Dolby or Mrs Holland.

- Mrs Leonard – jleonard@walton-ac.org.uk
- Mrs Dolby – kdolby@walton-ac.org.uk
- Mrs Holland – bholland@walton-ac.org.uk

We look forward to meeting you at the beginning of what will be a happy and successful time at Walton.

Yours sincerely



Mrs J Leonard
Vice Principal