

Dear parents/carers

We hope you are keeping well during this difficult time.

Ordinarily we would now have met at our 'Looking Ahead' evening in March and would be embarking on the next stage of the transition for students over the coming weeks.

Obviously things are still very much unknown in terms of what the next few months will look like in school but we wanted to write to you with some reassurances and some updates on our plans for transition over the coming months in light of the current situation in schools.

We have recorded our presentation so you can watch it at your leisure and in the comfort of your own home. Some aspects of the video are aimed more at parents/carers but you may wish to watch it with your children too. The link for this is here <https://youtu.be/skzxlFmmsc4>

We had planned for the students to attend a '**getting to know us**' session in May/June with their primary teacher and class, or with other primary schools for those who are coming as a small group or individual. Sadly this has to be cancelled this year as student safety is paramount.

We want to assure you that we continue to be in close contact with our primary colleagues and will endeavour to do all we can to ensure the students' transition is as effective and supportive as it can be given the situation we find ourselves in. The same information will be transferred and this process is already underway. We are fortunate to have good existing relationships with our colleagues in other schools which will help this greatly.

We have written a letter for students; attached to this email. Please do pass this on. We hope it provides some reassurance for them.

We would also like to direct you to our website where you will find a lot of the information you need in the meantime. All of the information usually shared during our **Getting to know us** sessions will still be shared virtually-these will be posted on the website in our year 6 area and emailed to you as we go along. Things will be added gradually so as to not overwhelm you, and our future students with too much information at once.

On the website, you can find a variety of resources to support with transition under the admissions tab> year 6 information. There is a direct link to this area here;

<https://www.horsforthschool.org/useful-information/admissions-and-open-days/#tran>

Over the course of the next weeks and months you will find several videos and activities to work through in preparation for the transition in September. These will include;

- A virtual tour of the school
- Messages from some of our current students
- A help guide/information leaflet which covers a lot of the information we would have covered during the getting to know us session
- A link to an interactive quiz for then to have a go at

And much more

As explained in the video above-we do hope to be able to run our Transition Taster Day in July and meet parents and carers for an information evening in June. Further details will come out in due course via email. Please do keep checking your email address we have on file (the email you used with the Admissions team when applying for a place)

We will of course update you in due course as we receive more information on possible timescales and can plan accordingly for the next phase of the transition.

We very much look forward to welcoming and supporting your child and working with you over the years to come.

If you do have any specific questions or queries then please email them to [pastoralhub@horsforthschool.org](mailto:pastoralhub@horsforthschool.org) and mark them as 'Y6 transition' in the subject heading; this will allow this to be directed to the appropriate people.

For now, please take care, take some time to have a look at the resources mentioned with your child and we will be in touch when we know more.

Kind regards

Miss McFadden

Dear Year 6 student,

We hope you are all well. We know it's a very strange time right now and things are very different for us all. We will explain who we are and what our role are over the next few weeks and months. You will get lots of information but don't worry you don't have to remember it all at once.

We also know that many of you will have added worries about what will happen for your transition to Horsforth School; many of you will be wondering whether you will get the opportunities to do all of the transition events we had planned for you over the next few months. We are not sure what will happen right now, or whether we will be able to do all of the things we had planned but I want to assure you that we will do all we can to make your transition to Horsforth school a good one.

We will make sure you, and your parents and carers have all the information you need. We will also be speaking to your primary teachers. We have worked with many of them for lots of years so we know each other well and will make sure we do all the things we usually do to make sure we are prepared for your arrival in September.

The first thing we had planned was your 'Getting to know us' sessions in May and June. These can't happen sadly but we have planned some things we can do to take their place.

During the getting to know us sessions you would have

-had a tour of the school- we will post a virtual tour of our website after Easter.

-had some sessions with us about what a day is like at Horsforth School, how the timetable works, what you will need etc. We would also have talked through our behaviour, attendance and uniform expectations-instead we have created this leaflet for you with lots of important information on it. You can also have a look at our website where you will find all of this information too. We will post a quiz later on to see how much you've learnt!

-you would also have had a chance to meet some of our year current students...they will send you some virtual messages as we go along

Try not to worry, we will write again when we know more from the government and can tell you more about what will happen next. For now, keep working hard, try the resources we have mentioned above and look after your families.

We will see you soon

Miss McFadden (Year coordinator Year 7) and Mrs Hardy (Pastoral and Behaviour Officer Year 7)