



HIGHDOWN SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM CENTRE

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Headteacher:
Rachel Cave BSc. NPQH

17th August 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian,

I hope you are having a restful summer and enjoying the lovely weather we've been having. I am really looking forward to welcoming your child to Highdown and I wanted to email you to explain what the students will be doing during the first two days of term so they can start to get excited! These two days have been designed to allow students to spend plenty of time in their new mentor groups to allow them to get to know each other and their mentors as well the opportunity to become more familiar with the school site. Time has also been allotted to House challenges, allowing the students to start the House Cup competition in earnest!

Thursday 3 September - Year 7 Transition Day

Students should arrive by 8.40am and meet on the front field where they will be organised into their mentor groups and will meet the fantastic Year 8 buddies who will be supporting their mentor group through the first few weeks at Highdown. The students will be welcomed in an open air assembly led by Ms Cave before being taken to their mentor rooms by the buddies at 9am.

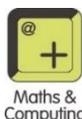
In the morning, the mentor groups will complete three activities in a carousel including: being sorted into their school House, a tour of the school and icebreaker games so they can get to know the other students in their mentor groups. Lunch will take place from 12pm - 1pm and will be held outside on the Year 7 field. Please note that you will need to provide a packed lunch for your child.

After lunch students will compete in their first House challenge: the Wacky Races. These activities will be taking place outside and will include a treasure hunt and a series of different active team challenges. This will be an excellent opportunity for students to start to bond with other students in their houses. Students will be dismissed at 3pm.

Transition day is a non-school uniform day, and we suggest that your child wear comfortable clothes and shoes they are happy running around in – trainers would be perfect.

Friday 4 September - First day of school

Students will need to report to their mentor rooms at 8.40am in full school uniform and with all their equipment (do not worry there will be buddies at the gate to help you get back to your mentor room if you cannot remember). Mentor time will include a virtual assembly from the Head and Deputy Heads.



In the morning, students will complete: a tutor board design competition (judged by myself, Mrs Turner and Mrs Mathews), an introduction to PiXL Edge in the school computers rooms, an assembly delivered by me (introducing the coveted mentor cup!), and more icebreaker games. Students will have a break between 10.20am and 10.35am which will take place on the Year 7 field so they can catch up with their friends in other mentor groups.

From 11.55am and 12.25pm students will have lunch on the Year 7 field and they will need to have bring a packed lunch from home for this. After lunch, students will have their first ever Highdown lessons! Students will be dismissed from school at 3.05pm.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any further questions. I cannot wait to get started!

Best wishes

Joe Lester
Head of Achievement of Year 7
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