



# Whitstable Junior School

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Dear Parents/Carers,

## Year 6 Transition Update 2020

Ensuring the thorough and carefully considered transition to secondary school for all of our Year 6 children still remains of high importance to us, therefore we wanted to let you know how we are working to overcome the obstacles that COVID-19 has created.

Normally, during Term 6, class teachers, alongside Ms Collin and Mrs Roy, would meet with all of the secondary schools, to discuss each child. These meetings ensure that each secondary school gets to know about the children's strengths, hobbies, work ethic, individual needs and what transition support may be required and who they would best be paired with. Due to social distancing, these meetings with the teachers have still taken place, but through the amazing virtual world, or through telephone conversations. To ensure that information is not over looked we are in constant communication with the lead teachers from each school and we have also ensured written information is shared via email.

At the same time, during term 6, the secondary school lead teacher would also meet with the children and often get them to talk about themselves and answer questions that they may have about their new school. With this in mind, we have planned a range of transition activities for *all* of our year 6 children, whether they are in school or learning from home. These activities will endeavour to help prepare the children for the next step; from problem solving activities using a typical secondary school timetable to 'All about Me' fact sheet that will be sent to their new school, to how to use bus and train timetables and what to do if they get lost or don't have the necessary equipment for their lessons. (An overview of these activities can be found on our website).

We are very conscious that your children will have many questions that would usually be answered during the transition days at the beginning of July or during open evenings. Please refer to each secondary schools website for further information as to how they are planning to overcome this particular obstacle as many are organising for parents to visit later in the term and have completed fact sheets with answers to many of your children's questions.

As our main our main feeder school: The Whitstable School has produced a page on their school website <https://ccwhitstable.org.uk/index.php?p=1069> for your information and they are in the process of making a 'virtual tour' so pupils can 'walk' around the school to acclimatise themselves to the layout of the school. Unfortunately, The Whitstable School will not be offering the traditional 4 days 'transition' for the children to visit in July, however it may be that they will run transition time at the beginning of term, with Year 7 children being invited into school into small groups. As soon as these details have been confirmed we will update you.

Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact us.

Warm wishes,

Annie Knoupe

Headteacher

