



October 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

Transition Assessment week commencing 5 October 2026

First of all I want to explain how incredibly proud we have been of the start that Year 7 students have made. In lessons they have been nothing short of exceptional which is obviously what we expect, but their motivation and enthusiasm to take part in the wider school community has been an absolute breath of fresh air. We have had students already helping out at after school events such as the open evening, attending football trials, creative writing club, chess clubs, auditioning for the school production, sparx club, table tennis, library club, winning house competitions, poetry competitions - you name it they have done it! After the half term we will be launching an extra-curricular loyalty care where they can win prizes, so please look out for that.

Your child may or may not have mentioned that next week is our transition assessment week, where our Year 7 students will be sitting assessments in each of their subjects. Historically we did these during the first week, but in recent years it has been far more successful and productive to do them once the students are better settled and feel comfortable in their surroundings. The assessments are incredibly useful for us to understand better what each student's strengths and weaknesses are academically which in turn means we can adapt curricula and schemes of work. They are also useful for the students as they get feedback on their assessments which they can then act on as they move forward to our Assessment point 2 which will be in February. You will receive the data and report from these during the last week of this half term.

The following week, commencing 12 October, is Ready to Read Week. During this week all lessons start with 8 minutes of reading by the students, who then identify words they would like help with understanding, and answer various questions about what they have read. Research shows that literacy, reading comprehension and sentence completion are the main indicators of academic success in young people, and these termly weeks are crucial in helping our young people develop a love and passion for reading.

I am hoping that all students can now access Google Classroom and Sparx so that all consolidation can now be completed. I have instructed staff to start logging sanctions for non submission of consolidation so please do not hesitate to contact me if there is an issue, via the email below.

Thank you for your unwavering support so far with the students, they have made a great start - long may it continue!

Have a lovely weekend.

Yours sincerely

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