

Transfer & Induction – Key Points



From Jim Knowles: Head of Year 7 & Transition Coordinator

A very warm welcome to The Warriner School.

We hope that the following information will help to ensure that the transition process runs effectively for all those concerned.

At The Warriner, we are strongly committed to creating an environment within which every individual knows that they are a valued and key part of the school community. This is achieved by placing emphasis on developing the whole person. In doing this, we develop happy and confident students who are fully supported in order that they fulfil their potential both academically and personally. This commitment is a key part of the transfer process and we seek to ensure that every student is welcomed successfully into our school community.

Please take the time to read the information below. You will learn lots more at induction evenings and induction days, and The Warriner School website has masses of useful resources too.

The Tutor Group

The tutor is a key element in the pastoral and academic support of each student within the Warriner. The tutor plays a vital role in the day-to-day issues of the tutor group and is generally the first point of contact between home and school.

There are ten tutor groups in Year 7; each student is placed carefully into a tutor group to ensure that there is a good mix of individuals from a range of primary schools. The tutors are supported fully by the Head of Year 7, our SEN team and our Warriner Learning Centre. The tutor group comes together each morning and the tutorial and assembly sessions are an important and integral part of our school day.

The move to secondary school is an opportunity to broaden friendships; students will be encouraged to mix and develop strong relationships within a safe and supportive environment. Tutors will engage in a range of activities to help students to settle into school and gain confidence in their new surroundings. Activities include:

'Show and Tell' – an opportunity for children to get to know each other

'Newsround' – watching the weekly news and discussing key events across the world

'Independent Day' – students work silently to complete homework, read a book, or improve work

'Pioneer Quiz' – excellent role models from year 10 deliver fun and engaging quizzes to teams

'Interhouse Events' – such as seated volleyball, encouraging healthy competition between houses

'Group Reading' – developing students' literacy and vocabulary by reading a novel or short story together

The Teaching Class

The year group is divided into ten teaching classes, five in each 'wing' (West & East), with an average size of 28. The classes will be mixed by gender, ability and primary school. Mathematics groupings will be organised by ability, but in Year 7 all other subjects are either mixed or in tutor groups. For students with additional needs, there is small group provision in some subjects, where children learn together in a specialist nurture setting. Each subject leader will build the groups to meet the needs of both their subject and each student.

In P.E. and Games boys and girls are separated for activities.

Keeping Organised

In September, there will be big changes for our Year 7s. A large campus, multiple departments, numerous teachers, new subjects; so much is different from their primary experiences. The vast majority of our students relish and 'step up' to this change, and we are there every step of the way to support them. To really help your child stay organised, they should be sure to have:

- The right equipment
- A pocket organiser (provided by the school)
- Daily access to 'Show My Homework' (now also known as 'Satchel:One').

We will provide many tour guides, maps, and much guidance throughout the first two weeks to help students find their way around. After that, we give them the opportunity to use their new-found knowledge and experience to 'stand on their own two feet'.

Induction Sessions & Virtual Visits

Within the current climate, we will not be able to run Induction Evenings and Induction Days as we normally would; we are required to maintain social distancing and follow government guidelines carefully to prevent the spread of coronavirus. With this in mind we will be offering 'induction sessions' instead:

- Parents/carers will be issued with a 90 minute time slot to attend an induction session
- This will be on Tuesday 23rd June or Thursdays 25th July
- One parent should attend the induction session with their child
- You will meet myself as Head of Year 7, members of the leadership team and, most importantly, your child's tutor
- All complete/return paperwork from this pack should be brought to your induction session and handed in upon entry to the School Hall.

A week or two after this date, colleagues from The Warriner will look to arrange a 'virtual visit' to Year 6 at Primary School! We will be able to speak with the Year 6s at school, answer any questions, offer reassurance and share some delightful letters that our current Year 7s have penned just for them.

Since there will be no induction days before the summer holiday, we will ensure that as and when the new Year 7s start in September, they are inducted carefully and gently to our 'way of life' at The Warriner School; meeting members of their tutor group and starting to develop friendships within their teaching classes. Students will also start to familiarise themselves with the layout and the dynamics of the school, and build a supportive relationship with their new Year 7 tutor.

The Warriner School - standards for all students

At The Warriner we believe in high standards from all members of our community. These standards are designed to ensure that every student maximises their learning in a positive and supportive culture that is focussed on quality, challenge and an on-going dialogue between the teacher and student. In turn we aim to ensure that standards of behaviour and achievement continue to rise as our students develop good learning habits. The key expectations are:

- All work set should be completed, both classwork and homework
- Errors should be corrected as directed by the teacher
- Students are to respond to feedback from the teacher in their books
- Quality and care needs to be taken with presentation
- Standards should be consistently high in all subject areas

At The Warriner School our three key values are 'RESPONSIBLE – RESPECTFUL – READY'. In every area of the school community we constantly strive to reinforce this. In Year 7, we want every student to become familiar with the 'Three Rs' and always look to demonstrate these values in their day-to-day behaviour at The Warriner School.

Admission Form, Medical Form and other forms

It is essential that **all forms** are accurately completed in full. Accuracy with contact details is vital should you need to be contacted urgently. We need to be aware of **all medical needs and medication** that might apply to your child.

Forms must be returned, upon entry to the hall, in a plastic wallet when attending your allocated induction session – we can then ensure that they get to the right place.

Please go to www.thewarrinerschool.co.uk/dataprotection to read privacy notices relating to the data we collect and hold.

'The Summer Transition Project'

Requiring students to complete tasks prior to joining us has been an important part of the transfer process for many years. It is an essential tool in helping students to get to know each other and for tutors to gain an insight into the new members of their tutor group.

In this pack you will find a colourful 'Summer Transition Project' for our incoming Year 7s to complete over the summer holidays. This will allow our students to demonstrate their creativity and excitement about joining us, and we will focus some of our 'team building' activities on this during September. Tutors will look closely at each project, to really get to know some fun and interesting facts about their tutor group from day one.

We hope that this guide has informed and reassured you about the transition process at The Warriner. We are proud of our transition process, and feel that it creates happy, comfortable children who love to be part of our community from the outset. Despite restrictions that are naturally being applied due to Covid-19, we promise to do our utmost to maintain its integrity and prepare your child for, hopefully, a full start in September.

Further information is available on our school website, should you wish to find out further details of how we support our students from Year 6 through to Year 8:

<http://www.thewarrinerschool.co.uk/transition>

We look forward to meeting you on at your induction session and answering any further questions that you may have.

Jim Knowles

Head of Year 7 & Transition Coordinator