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GF/LC/DEC

24th May 2023

To all Parents and Carers of pupils joining Year 7

Dear Parents and Carers

RE: INFORMATION UPDATE

With the end of term nearly upon us, I am writing to update you with some information ahead of your child joining Elmwood School. Obviously, the move from Primary to Secondary School is always a little daunting for both child and parent/carer but we are hopeful that with the transition arrangements we have in place these will help alleviate any anxieties.

We have therefore arranged for Monday 24th July to Tuesday 25th July 2023 as Year 6 transition days when only pupils in this year group will be on our school site with all other pupils ending their time in school on Friday 21st July and carrying out home learning for the remainder of the summer term. We have previously found that having this unique time in school to adjust to their new school surroundings and, the opportunity to form relationships with their key staff, has proved beneficial in helping pupils to adjust and settle ahead of their September start. Feeder schools are aware of these transition dates and will be supporting your child over these two days. Pupils will arrive from their primary school at 9.15 am (however if your child is currently transported via SEND transport, this will remain in place and your child will be brought directly to Elmwood School) and will depart at 2.20 pm on Monday 24th and 1.00 pm on Tuesday 25th.

Our school cook will be on site and will be able to provide a choice of a hot meal, jacket potato or baguette for your child or if they prefer to bring their own packed lunch, then this is of course fine; the cost of a paid school meal will be £2.99. Pupils should attend in non-school uniform every day as this will enable practical learning to occur, in addition the requirement for an outdoor coat is essential due to taking part in outdoor activities.

Due to training days at the start of term and to allow staff sufficient time to prepare classrooms ahead of welcoming your child, Year 7 pupils will start on Monday 11th September. From previous experience a staggered return by pupils following a long break reduces any behavioural difficulties and medical issues ensuring a calm environment for our younger students to join the community. We will inform the transport department of this date who will write to you in due course with details of the provider and a pick up time.

For information our School day is as follows:

Pupils arrive at school	8.40 am
Pupils break time	11.00 am to 11.10 am
Pupils lunch time	12.00 pm to 12.30 pm
Pupils depart school	14.25 pm



Team Teach Gold Award

Dyslexia Friendly School Level 1 Award

Walsall's Anti-Bullying Charter Mark – Silver Award



Leading Parent
Partnership Award

2020–2023



As you may be aware we have a strict uniform policy and students must attend School wearing the appropriate clothing. This consists of a grey polo shirt, black trousers, black shoes and the option of either a black logoed sweatshirt or fleece jacket. Our students wear their uniform with pride and are excellent ambassadors for the School. If you require any uniform items the prices are as listed below and these can be ordered via the School Office or directly from the supplier, A J Designs, www.a4jdesigns.co.uk/school-uniform-store/elmwood-school :-

Polo shirts	£7.50 to £9.00
Sweatshirts	£8.50 to £10.25
Fleece jacket	£14.95 to £19.15

Any orders made through school will need to be placed by Monday 10th July in readiness for these items to be available from school at the start of term (4th September 2023).

A reminder that students also require a PE kit and clothes to wear for outdoor learning lessons which need to be items that they feel comfortable wearing. We have also organised for Tempest Photographers to visit School on Tuesday 19th September to capture our new pupils' photographs, sample pictures will be sent home following this visit.

Enclosed is a copy of our parental handbook which includes various forms that I would ask you to complete and return when possible (to avoid postage costs, these can be sent in with your child on their transition visits). For reference copies of this document as well as other useful information are available on our school website. I have also enclosed a copy of our latest newsletter for your information, which I hope you enjoy reading (copies of our monthly newsletter are also available on our school website).

Whilst writing I can inform you that our remaining training days and closures due to health and safety days have been organised as follows:-

TRAINING DAYS

Monday 4th September 2023
Monday 2nd October 2023
Friday 9th February 2024
Friday 3rd May 2024
Monday 22nd July 2024

HEALTH AND SAFETY DAYS

Wednesday 6th December 2023
Thursday 7th December 2023
Friday 8th December 2023

I look forward to working with you next year and together ensuring that your child is as successful as he/she can possibly be.

Yours sincerely

MRS G FRANCIS
DEPUTY HEADTEACHER

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2020-2023

