



Monday 2nd June 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

We are excited to welcome your daughter into our school community and as part of our transition strategy, they will be invited to attend a taster day in school on 3rd July 2025. Pupils should wear their primary school PE kit but may also wish to bring a named jumper should it turn cold, especially in the evening. They will need a water bottle, a pen and pencil, and possibly some sunscreen but all other resources will be provided for the day.

Students will experience a range of activities that the school has to offer including three taster lessons. They will also get to meet the other pupils who will be in their tutor group in September. They will be guided around the school by some of our current Year 7 and Year 12 pupils, and they will also get a chance to see the different buildings and areas of the school to familiarise themselves with what to expect next academic year.

A free school dinner will be provided on the day to give pupils a chance to orientate themselves with the canteen here. However, should your child have any dietary requirements please do let us know in advance so that we can ensure that there is something suitable available. Please note, we run a nut free canteen (There are vegetarian options available at every meal). There is also an opportunity to purchase a snack at break time from the canteen. To help with this your daughter should bring no more than £3 in change. We are usually a cashless school and so are unable to change larger notes for this.

You are also cordially invited to join us and your daughter from 4pm in the afternoon to meet with senior staff and your daughter's pastoral team. We are also organising a drop in space this year which will include members of our careers team, our SEND staff, and a second hand uniform collection point, please do consider whether you would benefit from visiting these with your daughter in the evening. All of the activities are organised on a carousel so all parents and carers get an opportunity for each. Therefore please assume you will be in school from 16.00-18.30. There will be staff available to direct you when you arrive at school - please enter through the main entrance.

The site is very busy and so we would really appreciate it if you would help us by arriving no earlier than 8.45am to drop your child off for a 9am start as this will allow the normal school traffic to disperse. Similarly, we would appreciate if you would arrive for the afternoon no earlier than 3.45pm to allow for the rest of the school to leave, this will also make parking easier for yourselves. Coolinge Lane is an exceptionally busy road with two schools and two nurseries all dropping off /picking up at very similar times on a normal day. Add 180 + new families/new cars and you can imagine the potential gridlock. It may be necessary (and easier) to park further away from the school grounds and walk in; car sharing even better. Please allow good time for this so that we can begin your afternoon promptly; parking can be stressful and we don't want your first experience of FSG to be frustrating. Parking is, quite simply, tricky.

It will also greatly help us if all kit and clothing is named so that we can return any lost property.

Unfortunately we are unable to provide parking on site, and our school is a dog free site. If you do require disabled parking, or wish to bring an assistance dog, please contact us in advance and we can make appropriate arrangements.

We look forward to meeting you and your daughter.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs N Parsons

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