



21st June 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

Kimberley School Induction Activities

I do hope this letter finds you and your families well. The purpose of this letter is to update you on the Induction Events that will be taking place in July. We are determined to do everything we can to help prepare Year 6 for a successful transition to Kimberley School and these events will form the core of our work. More information, including a parent guide, can also be found on our website [here](#).

Year 6 Induction Days

These will take place on Thursday 6th and Friday 7th July and will give the students an opportunity to familiarise themselves with Kimberley School and start to meet some of the staff they will work with next year.


On Thursday 6th July students need to arrive in time for an 8.45 start. They should enter the school through the Main Entrance on Newdigate Street. They will be greeted in Hall 1 with an assembly, led by Miss Raymond (Year 7 Performance Leader). They will spend the majority of the day in their tutor groups, getting to know each other and The Kimberley School

On Friday 7th July students need to arrive before 8:40 am so that they are in school for registration which starts at 8:45 am. During day two they will experience multiple lessons as well as concluding the session with their tutor and an assembly. **The NEU have announced further strike action on Friday 7th July and the school will be affected by this, however, we will be going ahead with the second induction day as planned so please follow the programme outlined above.**

Both days will finish at 2:30pm. We will collect information from primary schools on which students have permission to walk home and which students need to remain in school until they are collected. Parents do not need to contact us about this. Please be aware that you will not be able to park in the car park at the front of school either in the morning or at collection time.

Students should wear their Primary School Uniform on both days, with footwear that would be appropriate when taking part in active group work. They should also bring their pencil case with them as well as a water bottle if they would like to. Mobile Phones are not allowed at Kimberley School, if students bring them with them, they should be turned off and at the bottom of their bag.

We would recommend that students bring a drink and snack with them for break time (11:05am – 11:20am). At lunchtime students will be able to bring a packed lunch or purchase food from a



range of options from our canteen, Free School Meals will be provided for those students who are eligible. If your child would like to purchase food at lunchtime, then parents will need to set up a Parent Pay account and preload with funds. We will send information to you on how you can do this nearer the time.

We do understand that this is an important day for Year 6, and you should be reassured that there will be staff and older students available throughout the day to make sure that it runs smoothly for everyone.

Induction Evening for Parents

This will take place in school on the evening of the 6th July starting at 6pm. During the evening parents will have a presentation from the pastoral team and an opportunity to meet with their child's tutor. We will send out more details of this nearer the time. **Please note that this event is for parents and carers only; not students.**

Uniform - Pop-Up Shops

There will be an opportunity for parents to purchase uniforms via our supplier, Schoolwear Solutions, on Monday 10th and Tuesday 11th July from 3.20 pm. To book an appointment for fitting please click on this [link](#). Our suppliers will bring stock with them so hopefully you will be able to take away the uniform the same day. Any items not in stock can be despatched free of charge for collection from school. If you have any queries please contact Schoolwear Solutions on [0115 925 8046](tel:01159258046). Details of the school uniform are available on our [website](#).

Tutor Groups – A Plea

Our pastoral teams are currently finalising tutor groups for next year which will be with you next week. Our experience is that this can become, unnecessarily, a concern for parents and students. It may help if I remind you that the tutor group is the group in which the students register and are taught some of their lessons. In many lessons, the students are mixed with others from across the year group – for instance in core subjects where students are grouped by ability, and in practical lessons where group sizes are smaller for health and safety reasons.

Our priority is to place students into tutor groups where they will work best. It is important to note that this may not necessarily be with all of their friends. Indeed, experience shows us children integrate more efficiently into school if they are mixed up a little and make new friends.

Every year we deal with contact from parents who are unhappy with the tutor group that their child has been allocated, many of them insisting that we change their child's tutor group. Usually this is because they want them to be in a specific group with specific friends. However, year after



year we see these students start in their allocated tutor group and flourish with a new group of friends.

My plea is this: if, following the allocation of a tutor group you are concerned, then please remember that they will still mix with other students in lessons and social times every day. If you are still concerned, then please do contact our pastoral team who will work with you to help your child settle quickly and successfully into life at Kimberley School. However, please do not expect that we will easily be able to move their tutor group – we are an oversubscribed school and as such all tutor groups will be full and our scope for moving individual students is very limited.

Finally

We do understand what a challenging time this has been for all students, especially those who are in Year 6 and are starting to prepare for the move to secondary school. Please do be reassured that our priority is to ensure that your child is well prepared to join us in September so that they can make a seamless social and academic transition to the next phase in their education. In these uncertain times you can be reassured that we will be able to draw on the expertise across Kimberley School to ensure that your child is set up for success when they join us later this year.

Yours faithfully

Andy Park
Head Teacher

