

Tuesday 14th July 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Re: Year 7 Arrangements for September 2020

Welcome to GTS! We hope you are staying safe and well in these unusual times. The challenges facing schools in 2020 have been unprecedented and we recognise the transition for pupils and parents/carers will feel much different. Sadly, as you are all very aware, we were unable to offer our well-tuned, highly successful Transition package, although we do hope you have benefitted from our “Virtual Transition” work?

However, staying true to our school values we embrace resilience and look toward to the new chapter; to this end we are very pleased to share with you our plans for the new academic year. Please be aware that all plans are subject to Government advice and guidance regarding COVID safe practice.

In the first instance we would like to offer you and your child an opportunity to meet their Tutor prior to the start of the school year (Monday 7th September 2020). These meetings will take place on **Friday 4th September 2020**. The structure of the meetings is as follows:

DISCOVERY	9:00 am
ENDURANCE	9:30 am
RESOLUTION	10:00 am
ENDEAVOUR	10:30 am

All sessions will start in the Sports Hall with myself, Mr. Bloodworth (Headteacher), Ms. Miller-Marshall (Assistant Headteacher), and your child’s Head of Learning and Pupil Coach. The intention of this meeting is for you to meet key personnel who are essential to your child’s journey through GTS, and to ask any questions you may have.

All pupils return to GTS on Monday 7th September 2020 at 8.50 am. On that morning, please go straight to the ATP or Sports Hall (weather dependent); there will be flags and signage to direct you to the appropriate meeting place. Pupils will be grouped according to their Houses and escorted to their Tutor bases. Year 7s will follow an adapted timetable for the first two days to provide them the opportunity to meet staff and their peers, and to begin to orientate around their new school, with our expectation then being that they will start to follow their timetables as of Wednesday 9th September.

In Year 7 we have eight teaching groups; these are divided equally into two ‘bands’ (G and T). We are mindful that due to the lack of significant Transition this year we do not know our new Year 7s as well as in previous years, therefore there will be some flexibility to move groupings within the first few weeks, should it prove necessary.

We would like to thank you for your continued understanding as we navigate our way through and adapt to the “new normal”. We wish you all a happy, healthy and safe summer break and look forward to meeting you all in September.

Kind regards

Helen V. Whiterod

Mrs Helen V Whiterod
Assistant Headteacher (INCo and Transition Lead)

