

The Harefield Academy

Achievement through Active Learning

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Headteacher: Tash Hurtado BA PGCE



30th March 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

Further to the welcome letter that was sent to you from The Academy on 4th March, we would like to update you on some changes to our programme of transition events in light of current Government guidance relating to social gatherings.

The flyer enclosed within our recent correspondence outlines future transition dates, including the **Coffee Open Morning** and **SEN Coffee Morning**, planned for the **31st March** and the **1st April 2020** respectively. Providing a safe and healthy environment for our Academy community remains our first priority and we are unfortunately unable to host these events at this time.

We remain absolutely committed to ensuring a positive and productive programme of transition for your child and we will advise you of the rescheduled dates for the remaining transition events, such as the **Transition Day on the 7th July** as soon as the situation changes. Where circumstance dictates around our capacity to facilitate these events face to face, we will be re-arranging our first day schedule for all new students to enable a full and complete transition experience. Please do check the school website and communication from ourselves for regular updates around the transition timeline. We will endeavor to give you as much notice as possible around the feasibility of this date.

Currently our **Summer Camp** dates are scheduled for **10th - 21st August**. As this event is taking place towards the end of the summer, we remain hopeful that we will be able to continue with this event. In the case that we need to amend any aspects of this event, we will communicate any known information to you and your child by July as we are aware that families will need to plan for their summer holidays.

We would like to ensure that all students receive the warm welcome that THA always extends to our new students. This year you can find a welcome video from some key staff members on our transitions/admissions page on our school website [here](#). Please do take some time to visit this page and familiarize yourself with our wonderful staff, they are keen to welcome you all to THA. Part of our transition programme also includes Academy staff getting to know the students. As a small school, we pride ourselves in knowing each of our students and building strong relationships with all of our community. As such, we would encourage your child to create a letter to their Head of Year, which tells us a little more about their interests, achievements etc. There is a template on the school website on our transitions/admissions page [here](#) and completed letters can be then emailed to gaynor.mccallum@theharefieldacademy.org. We are extremely excited to learn all about our new Year 7 cohort!

Within your welcome pack you would have received a bookmark with our THA values outlined. We truly believe that these characteristics help shape our students into upstanding members of the community and it would be wonderful to introduce your child to the importance of these



before they formally begin their time at THA. We have placed a creative task on the school website on the transition/admissions page [here](#) where your child can explore any one of our values through an artistic task of their choice. We will display these on the first academic day and ensure prizes are awarded for effort and creativity.

Please be reassured that we wish to continue to ensure the transition process is smooth and supportive for both yourself and your child and as such key members of the transition team will be communicating with you all individually. This will be in place of the advertised one to one meetings scheduled for June. If you are aware that your child has an additional need, please contact Mrs. Monaghan our SENDCo at pmonaghan@theharefieldacademy.org to update the school and address any additional needs accordingly.

In the meantime, if you have any questions regarding transition, please contact Mrs Gardner or Mrs McCallum via their emails at gemma.gardner@theharefieldacademy.org, gaynor.mccallum@theharefieldacademy.org in the first instance. We would also welcome any questions via our THA school Twitter account- please use the hashtag **#THAtransition2020**, this will enable us to work as an online community to support each other with any questions and answers and will be a great way for us to communicate frequently.

Best wishes,

Tash Hurtado
Headteacher