



19th May 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

We are delighted that you have chosen Whitstone School for your child's secondary education. We are looking forward to your child joining us in September and working with you over the next five years. Within this letter you will find details of our planned transition arrangements for Year 6, including all the key dates. I hope this is useful to you, but please do get in touch with the school if there is additional information you may wish to know.

We understand the need to get to know your child as soon as possible and we will be in close liaison with the primary schools to help us to do this effectively. Over the next few weeks we will be visiting all the local primary schools to introduce ourselves, present an overview of life at Whitstone School and also answer initial questions from students. The primary schools provide us with academic and pastoral information to ensure we understand your child's strengths, interests and hobbies. This allows us to build a good picture of how we can ensure a positive transition and education as they move up to Whitstone School. We also have a number of opportunities for you to join us before the end of the academic year, our aim being to ensure every student can arrive with us in September feeling happy and confident about joining Year 7.

I want to take this opportunity to inform you of a number of the key events taking place in the coming weeks.

Transition Day

One of the main stages of the transition process will take place on Wednesday 2nd July. On this date, all Year 6 students attending Whitstone School next year will spend the day with us. During this day, students will experience lessons, explore our school site and begin meeting new staff. Students should arrive at Whitstone School no later than 8.30am, where they will be supported by members of staff at Whitstone School. When students arrive, they should walk through the main gates at the front of school where they will be greeted and organised for the day. The day will finish at 3pm, where students can either walk home or be collected from the main school entrance. Students will be provided a free lunch from the canteen for the day or they are welcome to bring a packed lunch. Students are able to wear their own clothes, please ensure these are appropriate for active lessons.

Equipment needed:

- Water bottle
- Equipment for lessons, minimum of a pen and pencil

Transition Evening

On Wednesday 2nd July, there will also be an opportunity for parents/carers of Year 6 students to attend an information evening presentation at Whitstone School. This will begin at 6pm and should finish at no later than 7:30pm. During the presentation, I will cover the information parents/carers need to know in order to purchase the correct uniform, support your child during the transition process and answer any questions you may have. It will be wonderful to see all parents/carers at this event.

Additional Transition

We are very aware that the transition process will look different for each student, all of whom will have different aspects they are excited about and also varying worries. As such, we have a very detailed package of support for different students. Those individuals with SEND will experience more detailed support from our Ambition team and particularly our SENCo Mrs Bartlett. Other students will also undergo a more detailed transition process as they may have particular experiences at primary school or outside of school which warrant further support in the coming months.

Year 6 BBQ

We believe the relationship between school and home is something crucially important to the success of our young people. To help build this relationship and to provide parents/carers with the opportunity to meet key members of staff in a more informal setting, we will be holding a Year 6 BBQ on 15th July. Year 6 students attending Whitstone School in September are welcome to attend the evening and bring up to 2 adults with them. Please be aware that siblings should not attend, as this event is solely for Year 6 students and their parents. The event will start at 4pm and end by 5.30pm.

We very much look forward to meeting you in the coming weeks, if we have not done so already. Should you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact us by calling our school number on 01749 334545.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Claire Payne

Assistant Headteacher Behaviour & Culture