

Blessed Hugh Faringdon Catholic School & Sixth Form Centre 'True Teaching'

Headmaster: Dr Simon Uttley FRSA KHS

Fawley Road, Reading, Berkshire RG30 3EP Email: admin@hughfaringdon.org

Telephone: 0118 957 4730 Website: www.hughfaringdon.org

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26th May 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

Year 6 Transition Day - Thursday 30th June 2022

I am delighted to confirm to you the final details regarding the Transition Days and Evening for our new prospective Year 7 students.

We are deeply committed to ensuring that pupils are fully prepared for transition to our school in September. It is vital that during the transition process we build up a profile of each student and that he/she has the best possible experience of school life at Blessed Hugh Faringdon. This will ensure a settled start to Year 7 in September.

The Transition Day will take place on **Thursday 30th June from 8.45am to 2.30pm**, your child is expected to attend. The Parent's Information Evening on **Thursday 30th June** will commence at 6pm. Following an address by myself and then Miss Heaver, Head of Year 7, you will then have the opportunity to gather together with your child's Form Tutor and other parents of the tutor group. This will serve as an opportunity for some brief sharing of information with your child's tutor and a chance to meet other parents. The evening will finish around 7.30pm. As part of this process, Miss Heaver has also been co-ordinating visits to Primary schools to meet with Year 6 teachers and pupils throughout June.

I would be grateful if you could arrange for your child to arrive at school by 8.45am on 30th June. Please ensure that your child enters the school via the pupil entrance in Aldworth Close and not through the school's car park. The day will conclude for the pupils at 2.30 pm. Can you please collect your child from the Quad / playground on Aldworth Close at this time.

During the Transition Day, your child will have the opportunity to meet with their Form Tutor and other children within the tutor group, which we hope will make the start of the new term less stressful. There will be various sessions throughout the day which will include familiarisation with the school building, team building / ice breaking exercises and various activities within your child's tutor group.

Your child should wear full primary school uniform and come equipped with pens and pencils and appropriate footwear to play PE / Sports activities.

School Canteen

A full lunch service of hot meal and pudding are currently available at a cost of £2.60. Cold drinks will also be available for purchase, as well as a wide range of hot and cold food/sandwiches. If you prefer, your child may bring a packed lunch. If your child is entitled









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to free school meals, please refer to the details below, complete the form available on our website and inform Reception at the beginning of the day so that appropriate arrangements for your child's meal will be made. There will be no access to the canteen at breaktime on the Transition Day, please ensure your child brings a snack and/or drink for breaktime if they wish to have them at that time.

We operate a cashless catering system at school, you will receive details to register your Parentpay account before the Transition Day. ParentPay accounts will need to be set up in order for pupils to access canteen services at lunchtime on The Transition Day. As per current legislation all pupils will have an annual photograph taken for safeguarding purposes. We will also use a photograph to enable facial recognition in the canteen. If you do not want the photograph of your child used in this way, please let us know. Please be aware that we will always hold a photograph of your child for safeguarding purposes.

Mr Ronchi, our Kitchen Manager, will be available at the Transition Evening to present a sample of menus and discuss any dietary requirements.

School Uniform

Our compulsory school uniform and PE kit can be purchased online at www.valentinoschoolwear.com

by telephone on 01483 473357 or you can use the order form previously sent to you. Valentino Schoolwear will have samples and stock of the school uniform and PE kit and blazers to try on and order or purchase at the Parents Information Evening.

Free School Meals

In order for children to receive free school meals, we require proof of entitlement. Blessed Hugh Faringdon School uses the Free School Meal checking service provided by Reading Borough Council. This service will use the information provided by applicants to check entitlement across all areas of benefits that qualify. You will only need to complete the enclosed form once and so long as your circumstances do not change, you will not be required to do this again while your child is a pupil at Blessed Hugh Faringdon Catholic School. If you are entitled to claim Free School Meals and have not yet submitted a Free School Meal form please complete it and return it to the school office on or by **Tuesday 28th June.**

To be entitled to claim, you must be in receipt of:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)









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- Working Tax Credit run-on paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit (provided your net family income below £7,400)

ParentPay / Cashless catering

The school currently uses ParentPay for on-line payments. Parentpay is an online payment system for schools which is simple, safe and convenient and means that your child will not have to carry cash into school. It allows parents to pay quickly and securely for school trips, events and school meals. If parents do not have access to on-line systems then payments may be made through Paypoint stores and Post Offices. You will be notified of details to register for Parentpay before the Transition Day, Parentpay accounts will need to be set up in order for pupils to access canteen services on that day.

School Building Fund

We rely upon our parental contributions to the school building fund to ensure development of the school site for the benefit of the students and we request that each family commits to pay a sum of £30 (more if you can possibly afford it) on an annual basis, you can complete the form here: Building Fund Form. Thank you to those families that have already submitted a Building Fund payment form.

You can view further information about all school processes on our school website at: https://www.hughfaringdon.org/home/parents/new-starters-information/

Communication

It is vital that we have correct contact information for you so that we are able to get in touch with you in the event of an emergency. We will continue to send communications home to you by email and via our text messaging service, Groupcall. If you have not completed the admission information previously requested please do this as soon as possible. We require correct contact information in order for you to access SIMs Online services, this is the program you can use to view {{STUDENT_FIRST_NAME}}'s attendance, behaviour and reports online.

Meanwhile, I, and indeed all the staff at Blessed Hugh Faringdon Catholic School, look forward very much to meeting with you as we begin to develop a very important partnership to ensure happiness, individual growth and success for your child's time with us. If you have any queries in the coming months please contact Mrs Farrelly, Admissions Administrator or Miss Heaver, via transition@hughfaringdon.org.

Yours sincerely

Dr S Uttley KHS FRSA Headmaster Miss L Heaver Head of Year 7





