

Dear P7 parent,

Our Remote Transition has kicked off this week with all P7 pupils being invited to join the 'S1 Home Class' Google Classroom. We hope the pupils have enjoyed the welcome video from our senior pupils, and are finding it useful to have their questions answered; there are some great questions!

Please can I encourage you to make sure that your child has accepted the invitation to this Google Classroom. There are a small number of pupils who have yet to join.

As you will have seen from the Remote Transition overview document that was sent out last week, our plan for next week is to have the P7 pupils go into another Google Classroom – this time, their Tutor Group. Here, they will meet their Tutor and their Guidance Teacher. Pupils will receive the invite to their Tutor Group on Monday morning via their Edubuzz school email.

During the week beginning Monday 15 June, P7 pupils will be taking part in the curriculum remote transition, and I attach a timetable for how it will work during this week. For the purposes of this remote transition experience, the whole cohort of pupils will be in the one Google Classroom for each faculty.

Quite a few of the pupils are asking what House/Tutor Group class they have been put into. They will obviously find this out on Monday morning when they are invited into their Tutor Group Google Classroom. You may already be aware that some subjects at the High School teach pupils in the same groupings as their Tutor Group: English, Humanities, Modern Languages. Because 'practical' subjects like Science, Art, Craft Design and Technology are taught with a maximum class size of 20, the composition of these classes is a bit different. Pupils will find out what practical group they are in later on in June.

We fully appreciate that there is always a bit of nervous anticipation from pupils about what Tutor Group and Practical Class they have been put into. As I said in May in the first communication to parents about our Remote Transition, we endeavour to ensure that every pupil has one of their chosen friends in both their Tutor Group and their Practical Class. However, in the event of your child's 'ideal' pairing not being actualised, we ask for your support in reassuring them.

As we plan for the school's August re-opening, we are having to plan for smaller numbers of pupils being in the school at the same time. This will, of course, affect the experience of S1 pupils too. Although it is difficult at this stage to convey to you what this will look like, I would like to reassure you that we will try, as best we can, to ensure that whenever an S1 class is being split we still cater for pupil friendship selections.

All the staff at the High School are really looking forward to meeting our new S1 pupils in the coming weeks, albeit remotely. Although there will be some short tasks for pupils to complete during the curricular remote transition starting on the 15 June, our main focus is on relationship-building. The last thing we want is for any pupil to feel anxious about completing these tasks. Teachers, of course, will welcome the return of any completed activities, but pupils should not feel they have to do this with any particular urgency.

Kind regards,

Fraser McCallum DHT