



Smithdon High School  
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Ref: CCh/LT

13 September 2021

Dear Parent

A very warm welcome to you and your family as your child completes their first week at Smithdon High School. We had a fantastic transition day with lots of games, observation trails and getting to know each other. Now lessons have begun in earnest and over the next fortnight students will meet all their subject teachers and gradually learn their way around the school.

This week students will be bringing home their Autumn Term Knowledge Organiser. This is a booklet which covers all the key information for each topic that Year 7 will study this term, including Cells and Particles in Science, during which please note that students will study Human Reproduction as detailed in the National Curriculum.

#### Upcoming events:

- Open Evening, Thursday 23 September  
We will be asking for student volunteers to help out during this evening, and talk to potential Year 6 students about their experiences so far.
- Settling in and Co-Curricular Evening, Thursday 7 October  
This is a chance for you to meet form tutors face-to-face as well as learn about (and sign up your child for certain) co-curricular activities run by the school.
- Norfolk Lakes Residential trip, Wednesday 24 - Friday 26 November  
We are planning to take Year 7 to the Norfolk Lakes Activity Centre in November (Covid-allowing), there will be a further letter and an information evening regarding this.

#### Homework in Year 7

Homework is a chance for students to revisit the learning from class. We anticipate that homework for Year 7 should take no more than 40 minutes per night.

Each week homework consists of:

- Reading, please sign this off in the Knowledge Organiser.
- Revision/study/quiz using Knowledge Organiser subject pages from the lessons students had that day.
- Maths - Hegarty maths online - details will follow from your child's Maths teacher.

Any homework tasks will be set using Google Classroom and students can access this using their school email address, which will be shared with them during their first ICT lesson.

#### Baseline Assessments

Following there being no SATs tests for Year 6 this year, during the week beginning 20 September, students will sit a standardised baseline assessment in Maths and English (reading). These will be completed in lesson time and are fully online. This information will be used to help us judge all students' progress over Key Stage 3, and to check that students are in the correct classes.

Students will have a chance to have a practice attempt during form time, before the real assessments take place, so that they are prepared and know what to expect in advance.



**Reminders**

Just a few gentle reminders to please ensure names are on ties and blazers and the school uniform policy is adhered to. No chewing gum is allowed in school and mobile phones should be switched off and away safely in their bags, not to be used whilst on school site.

We encourage students to bring a water bottle and this can be refilled at break and lunch times from the water jugs in the Hall or the water fountains around the site.

We know the transition to high school can be new, exciting, difficult or worrying for our children, please do not hesitate to contact either myself or Mrs Bowyer if you have any questions or worries. Thank you for your support, and I look forward to meeting you soon.

Yours sincerely

**Mrs C Chapman**  
**Assistant Headteacher**