

23 October 2020



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Head of School: Chris Eccles

Dear Parents and Carers of new Year 7

As we reach the end of your child's first term at Oakwood High School, I am writing to let you know how pleased we are with the way that Y7 pupils have managed the transition from primary school to secondary school. It has been fantastic to see all pupils across each year group arrive at school on time, in uniform and ready to learn. Before the summer we were disappointed that we couldn't welcome our new year group into the building to get to know them and for them to feel that they had started their move to "the big school." Once again, thank you for your patience and support in getting your child ready for September.

All year groups have coped admirably with everything that is new to them, be that one-way systems to the staggered lunch times. This cannot have been easy for our youngest year group but they have shown enthusiasm and they have embraced the 5R's. An additional thank you for explaining the importance of wearing face masks in communal spaces - it is rare that pupils need to be reminded.

We are delighted that the vast majority of Y7 pupils have now received their Chromebooks. We hope that this will enable your child to fully engage in all aspects of learning, both in school and at home. Please remind them to bring it, fully charged, to school every day and contact us if there are any technical problems. Oakwood continues to teach lessons in the traditional way, but we also use the latest technology to aid learning. Google classrooms is a fantastic tool that your child is now using across all subjects. You should also have access to Go4Schools. Here you can track your child's subject progress, homework, attendance and behaviour. Please contact Miss Moorhouse if you require help with logging in to Go4Schools, n.moorhouse@oakwood.ac

Pupils at Oakwood receive 30 minutes of tutor time every day. We believe that this forms a vital part of supporting them to become well-rounded, responsible people. During tutor time pupils have the opportunity to build relationships with their tutor group and with their Personal Learning Tutor. They discuss their academic progress and celebrate positive behaviour. They complete a weekly literacy activity and watch and reflect on a broadcast assembly. After half term, Y7 pupils will also have the opportunity to engage in 'Feeling Good' - a mindfulness and wellbeing programme, which will be delivered in both PSHCE lessons and tutor time.

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We are looking forward to holding our first virtual Tutor Review Day on Tuesday 1st December. This will give you the opportunity to discuss how your child has settled in at Oakwood, how they are progressing with their subjects and for you to raise any concerns or ask any questions. In the meantime, please continue to use Go4Schools in order to keep up with your child's progress, homework and behaviour and do not hesitate to contact your child's PLT with any concerns.

Once again, I want to thank you, on behalf of all the staff who work with Y7, for your continued support.

Kind regards

Bethan Carré
Head of Progress and Engagement Y7-Y10