

19 June 2024

Family Handbook, Induction Day & Welcome Event

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am looking forward to welcoming your child when they join us at Hodge Hill College in September 2024. In anticipation of this, here is the link <https://bit.ly/4egAiBP> to our Family Handbook which contains all the information you and your child need to know about school life. I would ask that you take the time to read it in readiness for the new academic year.

Expectations

We must start the year with a clear view of our expectations to support your child's learning. Therefore, I would like to draw your attention to the following in the handbook:

Uniform – we operate a clear uniform policy. Please ensure that your child always attends in full uniform as detailed in the handbook.

Hair Cuts & Piercings – please ensure haircuts are appropriate. No shaved patterns in hairstyles or eyebrows are allowed and neither are facial piercings.

Sweets, Chocolates and High Sugar Drinks – we promote healthy eating to support learning and therefore ask that these items are not brought into school. All drinks sold on-site in the canteen conform to the government guidelines on sugar in drinks. We have banned single-use plastic bottles being brought into school and encourage pupils to bring water in a reusable plastic bottle. We will issue all Year 7 pupils with a reusable water bottle when they join us in September.

Leave in Term Time – we cannot authorise leave during term time. If your child takes unauthorised leave, this may result in the issuing of a penalty notice, legal action or your child losing their school place.

Mobile Phones – pupils are not allowed to use phones on the school site. If the phone is seen by a member of staff it will be confiscated and a parent/carer will need to collect it, as stated in the Behaviour for Learning Policy, at the end of the school day. Further information can be found in the handbook.

Induction Day & Welcome Event

For your information, Hodge Hill College will host its annual Year 7 Induction Day and Welcome Event on Wednesday 3 July and we look forward to introducing our new Year 7 pupils to the school.

For the induction day part of the event, pupils will be expected to arrive at 9am for registration. Parents and carers should drop pupils at the school's Main Entrance where staff members will then be available to take groups of pupils to the registration area. Please note, that parking or bringing vehicles onto the site will not be permitted.

Pupils will be allocated to their form groups and will have the opportunity to take part in fun learning activities in a variety of subject areas including PE, to begin the process of familiarising themselves with the school and their new classmates. Due to taking part in a PE session, we would like pupils to wear their primary school uniform but to bring a pair of trainers in a bag; they should wear their school shoes when arriving for the day and for the majority of the day itself.

During the day a packed lunch will be provided to all pupils. Pupils are however welcome to bring a packed lunch from home but this must adhere to school lunch rules, containing no fizzy drinks, crisps or chocolate and water in a reusable water bottle.

The day part of the event will come to a close at 2:45pm during which time pupils will be escorted to the Main Entrance to meet with parents and carers.

We strongly encourage families and pupils to return to the school via the Main Entrance during the evening of Wednesday 3 July for our Welcome Event which begins at 4pm and ends at 6:30pm. This provides you with the opportunity to familiarise yourselves with the school site on a tour and then there is the opportunity to discuss matters important to yourselves and your children with key staff attached to our new Year 7 intake. I will also deliver a Headteacher's address which will allow parents to gain a deeper understanding of our school ethos and future plans for our new Year 7's. Ties and badges will be available for you to purchase.

Free School Meals

I would encourage you to apply for Free School Meals through the online service found on our website: <https://www.hodgehill.bham.sch.uk/freeschoolmeals>. You can also telephone or come into school and complete a Free School Meals application online with a member of staff if you prefer. Please make sure you have the National Insurance Number with you for the named person who receives either working tax credit/child tax credit and we will be happy to help.

Key Dates

Wednesday 3 July	09:00-14:45	Induction Day for Year 6 pupils
Wednesday 3 July	16:00-18:30	Welcome Event for new pupils and parents/carers
Wednesday 24 July – Friday 26 July	08:30-14:00	Summer School 2024
Tuesday 3 September	08:30-15:10	Year 7 in school for induction Year 7 will arrive at and depart from school via the Technology Gates which are located at the Fairholme Road end of the school site on Bromford Road

Please note, that parents/carers are not permitted on-site to collect pupils. Over 1200 pupils leave the site at the end of each day and it can take 15 minutes for pupils to get from their classroom to the school gate. Please encourage your child to walk or cycle home if you live nearby. The Bromford Road is congested and parking is difficult. If you plan on picking up your child, please arrange to meet them on a road further away from the entrance of the school.

I am sure that your child will have the best transition experience and I am looking forward to sharing their successful journey through secondary education. If you have any queries or questions that you can't find the answer to, please do not hesitate to contact us on 0121 783 7807 or transition@hodgehill.bham.sch.uk.

Yours faithfully,



Hannah Herrmann
Headteacher