

28<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Dear parents and carers,

The teachers and leaders of Arthur Terry are delighted to invite you to our first ever Be Ready Day, on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> of October. On the day, every parent and guardian will have an appointment with their child's tutor, as well as exploring displays and stalls from our Careers, Enrichment and wider personal development offering on the school site.

We are proud to be an **inclusive** and **nurturing** learning community that gives everyone the opportunity to **excel** and a place to **belong**. Building and fostering strong, positive relationships between the school and the families of the students who come here to learn is an essential ingredient in continuing to build our culture of excellence and sense of belonging. We feel that this day is a crucial step in strengthening these relationships, and empowering parents and carers to be a proactive, supportive part of their child's school life. Since the pandemic, opportunities for families and teachers to meet in person have been sparse, so we have created this day to address that, and enable us to reconnect as a community.

Beyond this important reconnection, there are a range of areas that will be the driving purpose of these meetings. We hope to:

- Increase opportunities for face-to-face contact between school and parents/carers.
- Create and strengthen effective relationships between form tutors and families.
- Increase form tutors' holistic understanding of their tutees, providing parents and carers with an opportunity to discuss their child's strengths, weaknesses and needs for this academic year.
- Engage parents, carers, and students with the changes to whole school assessment policy, including the new assessment weeks.
- Review your child's start to the academic year with regards their attendance, praise, and behaviour data, along with their academic attainment.

Prior to the event, appointments will be made available using School Cloud, which you will be familiar with from booking parents' evening appointments. However, unlike parents evening, we are asking all parents/carers to attend these appointments in person. This will enable a more personal discussion with you and your child and will mean you can access other staff and events on-site, including pastoral leaders and the displays and stalls detailed above. Each family will be asked to make an appointment, and we will do all that is possible to ensure that all our parents and carers have the chance to speak with their child's tutor. Please keep an eye out for further communication about the day, which will follow soon.

On the day, school will not open in the normal way, to facilitate the face-to-face appointments for the whole school. Students will work from home, completing work remotely, which will be set using Showbie and Go4Schools, following their normal timetable.

We are excited by the opportunity this day represents, and hope that it will support both families and teachers to give our students the best possible academic and personal development experiences in their time at Arthur Terry. We hope that you will also be enthusiastic about our Be Ready Day, and that it will enable you to be heard and feel supported.

Yours faithfully

The Leadership Group