

17th July 2024

Parent/Carer of

Dear Parent/Carer

We hope you and your family are well and that your child continues to look forward to joining the Arthur Terry School. The transition to secondary school is such an exciting time, however we are aware that it can also be a challenge and we strive so that your child rapidly feels part of the school family.

To support your child’s transition, you may find it useful to explore our Year 6 to Year7 Transition webpage which can be found at <https://arthurterry.bham.sch.uk/transition/>. Over the summer, please take a look at our virtual tour, advice and guidance on supporting transition, and the A to Z of Arthur Terry. If your child did not bring their ‘letter to their future self’ on July’s transition day they can bring this along in September. Details of this activity can be found on the transition webpage within the key events (3rd July) table.

Our motto is “Be Proud, Be Kind, Be Ready”: we want our students to be proud that they belong to the school community, be kind and respectful to each other and be ready for their next steps as they progress through school. We will be alongside them every step of the way as they embark on this next exciting phase of their learning journey.

To support this, your child will have a dedicated tutor who will be the member of staff they see daily and will be your first point of contact with school.

There are 9 tutor groups in total and students spend time in this group for tutor time each day and personal development lessons. They will also be in this group for some of their other lessons during the week.

We are pleased to inform you that your child has been placed into and they will meet their Tutor on their first day in September.

The table below also shows the other key staff who will be supporting your child in Year 7.

	Progress Leader	Key Stage Leader
7A (groups 1-4)	Miss Dubidat	Mrs R Geillis
7B (groups 1-5)	Mrs Charles	

Placing students into their tutor groups is an extremely well-thought-out process and something we invest a large amount of time in doing. There are a vast number of considerations that go into this process, including liaison with your child’s primary school to support your child with their transition. As a result of this and due to groups being at full capacity, please be aware that there will not be the opportunity for your child to move to a new group and we appreciate your understanding regarding this.

P.T.O

The Arthur Terry Learning Partnership, a charitable company limited by guarantee,
 registered in England and Wales, company number 07730920.
 Registered office: The Arthur Terry School, Kittoe Road, Four Oaks, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands, B74 4RZ
 CEO Richard Gill, NPQH, NLE, FRSA

First Day in September

Year 7 will return to school on **Wednesday 4th of September 2024**. Students should be on site by 8.45am in line with the usual school day timings. On this day we will only be having Year 7 on site from KS3 and 4, so we can fully support them with their transition. The students should enter through the main school green gates which are at the front of school. We understand that you may wish to escort your child on their first day, but please be aware that our school site is usually extremely busy and therefore we request where possible you refrain from doing this once all year groups have returned, on Thursday 5th September.

During their first day students will spend time with their form tutor, begin some of their lessons and have their biometric fingerprint taken. This is how students will pay for any catering whilst on the school site and is directly linked to your Parentpay account.

During their first half-term, students will complete a series of short cognitive assessments. Students will first sit the Cognitive Abilities Test (CAT4), which assess a student's ability to think across four different areas:

- Verbal reasoning – thinking with words
- Quantitative reasoning – thinking with number
- Non-Verbal reasoning – thinking with shapes
- Spatial reasoning – thinking with shapes and space

They will then sit assessments that will provide information about English and Maths understanding and application, known as PT tests. We would like to stress that the assessments are designed to give further information about ability and not attainment, so no pre-learning or preparation is necessary. Your child should not feel worried about taking PT or CAT4 tests and should not do any preparation work for them. The results will be used together with our internal assessment practices, to inform teachers about the strengths and development areas of each student. Your child will need to bring with them a pair of 3.5mm earphones for the assessments, they should not be wireless or flat ended Apple connection. They should also bring a reading book (to read during breaks in the tests).

Studybugs

The Arthur Terry School uses an efficient and secure system which enables you to report your child's absence due to illness, called Studybugs. A massive 93% of all parents/carers are already using this fantastic app. The school also uses the system to notify you of important notices, updates and alerts.

In readiness for September please download the free Studybugs app or register on the Studybugs website. You will need to ensure you register your account with the email address you have provided the school with. When downloading the app, please ensure you allow notifications to ensure you don't miss out on vital information. Please type this link into your browser: <https://studybugs.com/about/parents> More information can be found on the school website.

Uniform

We would also like to clarify that one pair of suitable sports trainers will be sufficient for all PE lessons. Football boots/astro trainers will be needed if your child wishes to take part in rugby or football in an extra-curricular club.

Parent Pay

Parent Pay Activation letters will be sent to you at the start of September containing your activation username and password to enable you to set up your ParentPay account. Once you set up your account you will be able to add dinner money and make your deposit payment for the Year 7 Residential Trip to Aberdovey, which is due by Monday 16th September, should your child wish to go. Please direct any queries to enquiry@arthurterry.bham.sch.uk

We look forward to meeting your child in September, supporting them to thrive here at Arthur Terry and reach their full potential.

We hope you all have a lovely summer break.

Yours faithfully,
Samantha Kibble
Headteacher