

5 May 2020



Headteacher:

Dr R P Petrie BSc PhD

Dear Year 6 parent/carer

The summer term in Year 6 is an exciting yet anxious time for parents and students as they start to prepare for the transition to secondary school.

At Cockermouth School, we understand the importance of this transition and we work tirelessly to support our students and their families through this process. We place a value on face-to-face communication with our primary schools, we prioritise meeting all of our students in advance of the Intake Days and during those days we provide an experience that answers lots of questions and which gives reassurance to students and parents alike.

In the current situation it is likely that things are going to have to work a little bit differently this year, but we wanted to write to you to reassure you that even in these uncertain times, we will be doing everything that we can to make the transition into Cockermouth School successful

We have already communicated with our primary schools to start collecting all of the information that we normally would, but this year we will be doing this electronically. We have asked the schools to provide us with all of the background information about your child that allows us to understand them a little bit better.

We will ask for all of the things that you would expect us to know, but we also like to know about their strengths, their interests, the things that they are worried about and those extra little things that are unique to your child.

It is disappointing that we will not be able to visit the primaries in our usual way, but you can be assured that we will be preparing to welcome your child in the way that we normally would.

We have had the pleasure of meeting many of our incoming students during the intake process, whether that has been on some of the Year 5 experiences, on the Open Evening or on a subsequent Open Morning. We would normally be making arrangements to meet again in the next couple of weeks, but again given the wider circumstances this may not be possible.

Please be reassured that your child, whether they know the school well or whether they are a relative newcomer, will be welcomed and supported from the moment that they join us. We understand how difficult and uncertain the current circumstances are and this makes us more determined than ever to make sure that the students have everything that they need to be successful.

The Intake Days are currently calendared for **Tuesday 23 June** and **Wednesday 24 June** with the parents' meeting on the evening of **24 June (16:30-19:00)**. At the moment there is simply no way of knowing whether the days will be able to go ahead in their current form, whether we may need to change the date, or indeed whether we may need to think very differently about our intake experience.

We will work with our primary schools on agreeing a plan and, once we have a clearer picture of how things will work, we will be back in touch to confirm the arrangements.

Thank you for your understanding and support. We look forward to working alongside you in the weeks and months ahead, as we make the arrangements that will support all of our students and their families at this important time.

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'IG Routledge'.

Mr I G Routledge
Director of Pastoral Support- Year 7 & Primary Transition

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