

## **Year 6 to 7 Transition Programme**

At Hanson we pride ourselves in providing our new students and parents a smooth and successful transition from Primary to Secondary school. This is a crucial time in any child's development and we aim to ensure they are as prepared as they can be when September arrives.

Outlined below are details of the many ways in which we hope to make your child's transition to Hanson as enjoyable and trouble free as possible.

### **Information Evening – after the initial allocations**

An extra opportunity for parents and new students to visit Hanson once allocations have been confirmed. This will be in the form of a Mini Open Evening with presentations from the Headteacher, plus all departments will be on show.

### **Small School Presentation Evening – June**

An opportunity for students coming from smaller feeder Primaries, where there are generally 5 or less coming to Hanson, to visit the school. This is done prior to the main Induction Evening in July so that students can meet others in a similar situation and familiarise themselves with the school. Students will complete tasks with their new Director of Key Stage and parents are invited for refreshments and a Q&A session/presentation with Hanson staff.

### **Primary school visits – ongoing in Summer Term**

Hanson staff will visit ALL new students in their Primary schools and complete a get to know you task. Hanson staff will also meet with Primary school teachers and key members of staff to discuss the students. Key information about behaviour, attendance, attainment, strengths and areas for improvement are discussed to ensure a smooth transition to Hanson.

### **Discovery Sessions – July**

Primary schools will be given the opportunity to attend Hanson and take part in the Discovery sessions involving Science, Technology, Music, Drama, Dance, PE and potentially more. This will give students the chance to experience lessons in secondary school and meet some of the teachers.

### **Transition Day and evening – July**

ALL new students visit the school for the day and follow a normal school timetable. They will be arranged into their new forms and meet their form tutors. The evening gives parents an opportunity to meet their child's form tutor and key members of staff in school. Here, information is given about school systems, expectations, the start of term, uniform and summer school.

### **Additional Transition Days – July**

Additional Induction days during the same week as the main Induction day focussing on students who may benefit from extra visits. These students are identified by the Primary schools and the Hanson SEN/Wellbeing department. Additional visits will also be arranged for specific students with extra needs e.g. physical difficulties, medical, HI/VI and are to be arranged as needed.

### **Subject transition packs – given out on Transition evening**

Over the Summer holidays students experience what is known as 'Summer learning loss' and they can return to school at a lower academic level than the end of the previous school year. This happens when children don't use or practise the skills he or she learned at Primary school. To reduce and minimise the effects of a long Summer break we will

provide our new students with subject specific transition packs that will equip them with the knowledge and skills needed to really 'hit the ground running' in September. Each subject will provide details on what books to read, websites to research, podcasts to listen to and provide students with tasks to complete. These tasks are not compulsory and we want students to enjoy the Summer holidays but they can really benefit children in the long run and provide extra activities to fill the time over Summer.

### **Summer School**

The Hanson 'Moving Up' Summer Camp is organised with the Youth Service and other local community agencies. Weeks 1 to 4 are based in Community settings with the aim of preparing students for life at secondary school. Week 5 will be at Hanson with the aim of ALL new Year 7 students starting school a week early to 'move up' to Secondary School. Hanson Staff/teachers deliver lessons to prepare students for their start in September – students will forge relationships with staff and other students as well as developing a greater understanding of the demands and expectations at Hanson.

### **Year 7 Transition week**

A series of transition activities for all students during their first few days at Hanson. This will include:

- 1.5 days in school without other year groups. Students will be able to familiarise themselves with their surroundings and get to know their form tutor and other students. They will also begin their 'Me, Myself and Hanson' project and have their school photos taken.
- Royal Navy Team Challenge day – students will be put through their paces by the Royal Navy through a series of team building tasks aimed at developing their resilience, determination, communication skills and their confidence. They will complete these tasks with their form groups.

### **Year 7 Settling in Evening**

At the end of the first half term parents will have the chance to visit school and speak to their child's form tutor who will provide feedback on how the student has settled in, their progress so far, and any teething issues can be fixed early on.

### **Year 7 Transition all year round**

We understand how students transition to secondary school doesn't stop after the first week and some students will take longer to adapt to their new routines and environment. Therefore, we continue the transition theme over the course of the year and support students in the following ways:

- Form Tutor sessions every day
- Key stage team who stay with the students in Year 7 AND Year 8
- Peer Mentor System
- Peer Matching System in Form Groups
- Nurture Form for more vulnerable children
- Early and split lunches
- Regular parent communication if and when needed
- Year 7 Christmas Disco
- Regular rewards and incentives
- Trips including the Year 7 Residential

**More information about all of these events will be published on the school website and letters will also be sent home to parents with key dates. All correspondence will also be sent to feeder Primaries.**