



Friday 30 April 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

We are delighted that your child will be joining us here at Backwell School in September.

We hope that we can run our Induction Programme and Parents' Information Evening as normal (in person on the school site) in Term 6 to welcome you and your child to Backwell School – should these need to be rearranged or changed due to COVID-19 measures we will let you know.

Please be assured that we will do our very best to keep you up to date with the transition process with regular email communications over the coming months. We have also set up a [dedicated page](#) on our website for Transition 2021.

### **Year 7 Induction Days**

As part of our transition programme for students joining Year 7 at Backwell, we will be holding two induction days in July. To reflect the challenges of the past year, and as students have been unable to visit the school, we have extended our 'Induction Day' across two days this year; **Thursday 8 and Friday 9 July 2021**. Students will take part in a range of taster activities and meet key members of staff as well as getting to know the school site and those in their tutor group.

More information on the exact logistics for these days will be emailed in due course, but please pencil these dates into your diary; the days will run 9.30am-2.30pm.

Our Educational Support Department will run a further additional induction session for vulnerable students (as identified by their primary school). Those selected for this will be contacted separately in June.

### **Parents' 'Induction' Information Evening**

We invite you to an **Information Evening from 6.00pm on Thursday 8 July 2021**. This will be held in the Main Theatre and there will be an opportunity to receive more details about the school, as well as meeting senior staff. The entrance to the school is off Station Road; please park in the main school car park and not the Leisure Centre car park.

### **Uniform**

We feel our uniform is smart, practical and builds a sense of identity and pride in Backwell students. We have high expectations of our students and expect them to be meeting our [uniform guidelines](#).

Our uniform is purchased online from our supplier Price and Buckland. At the end of June we will email all new Year 7 parents confirming the house your child will be in (so you can buy the correct uniform), buying information for this year, including detailed size guides and deadlines for ordering.

## Tutor Groups

We take great care in placing our new students into their tutor groups. You will find details of our policy, and the things we take into consideration when forming the groups, in the PDF attached. All students will find out what tutor group they will be in our first Induction Day – Thursday 8 July 2021.

Please [click here](#) to complete our **Tutor Group Request Form**. It includes key data to allow us to form tutor groups, as well as essential information we need for the Induction Days.

***Please complete this form by 9.30am on Wednesday 12 May.***

## Modern Foreign Languages

We teach French and Spanish in Year 7. Half of Year 7 will learn French and the other half Spanish, and they will continue to do so until the end of Year 9. Children will receive similarly enjoyable and challenging learning experiences whichever language they do. However if there is a strong reason why you wish your child to be allocated specifically French or Spanish there is an opportunity for you to outline these on the Tutor Group Request Form linked above. In Year 8 a large number of students are invited to take a second language to complement the one they have already been studying.

## Summer School 2021

Following the Department for Education's pledge to provide funding for summer schools, I am pleased to announce we will be providing a week of activities in the summer holidays for all those who will be joining us in Year 7. The summer school will take place over 5 days (likely to be the first week of the summer holidays, exact dates still to be confirmed) and will be free of charge!

The children will be encouraged to try new activities, make new friends and increase their confidence before joining us in September. The activities will cover all sorts of enrichment as well as some literacy and numeracy sessions to build on their learning at primary school.

Further details, including the registration process, to follow in due course.

## Next Steps

Attached to this email is a PDF document outlining a few key policies; tutor group allocation, cashless catering systems, financial support and our School Charter. Please take a few moments to read through these documents.

There are **two online** forms that now need to be completed – the deadline for these is **9.30am on Wednesday 12 May**.

- Parents need to complete the Tutor Group Request Form, as mentioned above [Click here for Tutor Group request Form](#). If you have more than one child you will need to complete this form again (one for each child).
- Please also complete the online [Click here for Admissions Form](#). If you have more than one child you will need to complete this form again (one for each child).

Yours sincerely



Mr J Nunes  
Headteacher