

Dear Parents / Carers

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome your child as a prospective Year 7 Birchwood student. We received over 900 applications and have offered out 240 places and now we look forward to meeting your child. Please click on the link below and complete all the information requested.

<https://forms.office.com/r/w0TSrbvueZ>

I am pleased to write to you at a time where we can start to recognise an improving situation with the global pandemic. The previous two years have seen a number of restrictions and barriers put in place in education and this inevitably had an impact on students in different ways for every age group. Fortunately, now these restrictions have been lifted, we are able to fulfil our full programme of visits and events that will consist of the following:

### **Primary School Visits: 6 June 2022 - 17 June 2022**

Following half term, myself, the Head of Year 7, Student Welfare Officer and our SENCO / Deputy SENCO will embark upon the process of visiting every primary school to learn about each student and their journey in education so far. This process of gathering information generally proves to be tremendously valuable. That being said, I have absolutely no doubt that there will be students all over the country seeking a fresh start from primary school and this transition to secondary school can certainly provide them with the opportunity to reinvent themselves and rewrite their own narrative so far.

### **Induction Day 1 / Parent Information Evening & Faculty Fair: 14 July 2022**

Following the visits, students will have the opportunity to experience their first taste of life at Birchwood on **Thursday 14 July** when they attend Induction Day 1. After what we hope will be an engaging and informative day for the students, parents and carers will be invited to our Information evening along with your child. You will also be able to meet your child's new form tutor, as well as attend what we call a 'Faculty Fair'. This is an event that runs in the sports hall where you can learn more about each faculty area.

### **Summer School: 22 August – 24 August 2022**

Following the huge success of last year we will be holding a Summer School at Birchwood which will consist of 2 days of fun and introductory activities on site and potentially a day trip on the final day otherwise a third day on site. Further details will be communicated to you closer to the time.

### **Induction Day 2: 5 September 2022**

Following the summer school students in Year 7 will have their first official day of the Autumn Term on **Monday 5 September 2022**. Another programme of activities will be offered for the students to follow so they continue to become more and more familiar with everything and everyone. One of the great things about this day is also that Year 7 will be the only cohort in school other than Year 12.

Finally, we will ensure that you as parents are kept up to date with all the information you need. A 'Year 7 information booklet' will be put together with everything you require, along with extra bits and pieces posted on the Birchwood website. A number of summer tasks for students will also be placed on the transition page so do look out for these.

I do hope that this all makes sense and that you are feeling positive about your child starting at Birchwood in September. If you do have any queries at all, please do not hesitate to get in contact with me on [rherbert@birchwoodhigh.org.uk](mailto:rherbert@birchwoodhigh.org.uk)

Kind regards

**R Herbert**  
Assistant Principal

Principal - Dr Chris Ingate

Registered office - Parsonage Lane • Bishop's Stortford • Hertfordshire • CM23 5BD

Telephone: 01279 655936 Email: [admin@birchwood.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@birchwood.herts.sch.uk) Website: [www.birchwoodonline.co.uk](http://www.birchwoodonline.co.uk)

Follow us on...  