

West Derby School

364 West Derby Road, Liverpool L13 7HQ. tel: 0151 235 1300

email: admin@westderbyschool.co.uk web: www.westderbyschool.co.uk

Headteacher: Mrs S Graham



We Deliver Success

March, 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

I would like to take this opportunity to say a warm welcome to West Derby School! Your son has been allocated a place at West Derby School, commencing September 2023. I am looking forward to a productive partnership with you, helping create an effective and successful educational experience for your son.

It is a huge step for your son to leave year 6 and start year 7 at a new school. At West Derby, we try to ensure we support each individual pupil as they begin their new journey. It is imperative that in year 7 pupils develop good habits. Our staff work to encourage our boys to have exceptionally high standards. Positive engagement, behaviour, attendance, organisation and responsibility are vital to the progress your son will make throughout his time at West Derby.

Here at West Derby we pride ourselves that the efforts we make ensure a smooth and worry-free transition from primary school. My name is Mr Zachariades, the staff and pupils know me as 'Mr Zach' and I will be your son's Pupil Progress Leader (PPL) throughout year 7. The year 7 team, including my Assistant PPL (Mr Fraser) and Form Tutors, will continue the transition process from the moment your son starts at West Derby. We will be on hand to give essential information, advice, encouragement and emotional support when required. Your son's form tutors will be his most regular and important contact and, along with myself, will help track his academic progress through school.

It is very important that our students learn to take responsibility for their own learning and organisation. However, it is also imperative that parents keep us informed and remain engaged in their child's learning journey. We have our digital communication and engagement tool called '**Weduc**' which helps improve the way that parents and our school staff communicate. You will shortly receive an invitation to 'Weduc' via email/text, this will provide you with the important steps to enrol. We will then be able to send you the important '**parents transition form**' to complete.

During this transition period, we will also be signposting you to the school website, where you will be able to view the Year 7 transition documents. These will be available to view after the Easter holidays.

- Year 7 Transition Guide 2023
- First Day Guide 2023
- Attendance and Punctuality Parent Guide
- School Shoes and Uniform Brochures
- ParentPay Letter – how to pay for school meals

Please ensure you are also looking regularly on the school website as messages, important notices, subject information and whole school initiatives can also be found on here. Additionally, you will find our homework learning platform called '**Satchel One**' which is the school's online learning platform for staff to publish homework, deadline dates and requirements. Pupils and parents will get log in details (in September), so you can track the amount of homework your son has been set.

We firmly believe that rewarding pupils is very important and we do so on a regular basis for both academic and personal achievements, leading to certificates of excellence presented at special end of term assemblies and annually at our awards evening.

We are particularly proud of the extensive extra-curricular activities we offer to our pupils both at lunchtime and after school. Please encourage your son to join as many as possible as I believe it will widen his circle of friends and, in many cases, extend and improve his level of skill and performance. A busy and involved pupil is much less likely to worry.

At West Derby, we believe that building positive relationships with parents/carers will help inspire our boys and lead to success, progression and achievement of all our pupils. I firmly believe that excellent attendance is linked to excellent attainment. Please ensure your son is in school every day and on time. 97% attendance is the minimum target we set for our pupils, this equals to a maximum of 5 days' absence in a full academic year.

A new beginning is exciting, but this transition can also be a stressful time for your son. You may be wondering how you can help. We will be providing regular updates via Weduc, the school website and our dedicated Twitter social media accounts (**@westderbyschool** and **@Y7TransitionWDS**). Try to find out as much information about our school as possible and keep up to date on what is going on in school. Also, discuss every evening how the day went, the following day's lessons and any homework deadlines; this will encourage forward planning and help to prevent early morning panics! Assessment across the school takes place at various points in the year. We will notify you prior to these dates so you can support your son with his revision.

We will be holding a **Year 6 Parent Transition Information Evening** on **Wednesday 26th April 3.45-5.15pm**).

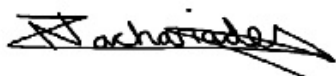
There will be two meetings held in school, at different times (see below). Due to the venue capacity, please ensure you attend on the correct timings only: -

Childs surname begins with A-J – Please attend - 3.45-4.15pm (45mins).

Childs surname begins with K-Z – Please attend – 4.30-5.15pm (45mins).

I am looking forward to a productive partnership with you to help create an effective and successful educational experience for your son. If you have any questions or requests on how we can help you during this time, please contact via email to transition@westderbyschool.co.uk

Yours sincerely



Mr N Zachariades
Year 7 Pupil Progress Leader