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Headteacher: Mr. Aaron Wanford MA, B.Ed. (Hons), NPQH

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Thursday, 6<sup>th</sup> June 2024

## Secondary Transfer Meeting Follow-Up and Process for Year Five Parents/Carers

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to those that were able to attend the Secondary Transfer Meeting yesterday. I know there is so much information to take in and digest – particularly for parents/carers doing this for the first time - and I am sure you have been giving it some thought already. For those parents/carers who were unable to attend, we have attached the PowerPoint presentation that we talked through to this letter, which should give you an overview of the key information. This letter will summarise some of the key immediate things that need to happen or that you need to be aware of but please be assured we will keep you on-track throughout the whole process!

Please note that there is an important link [here](#) for you to complete, which gives us the important information we require to assist you. This information needs to be completed by close of play on **Friday, 7<sup>th</sup> June**. Please read the information below before completing the link.

### 11+ Selection Testing

As mentioned, I am including with this letter the familiarisation booklet (which I am anticipating should be sent to you in hard copy by Buckinghamshire Council directly later this term). Please take the time to look at this and consider whether your child is likely to be able to undertake this independently and gain a relatively strong score. As we discussed, we are not able to coach or tutor for the testing, and so you will need to ensure your child is prepared for the test if they are to undertake it.

Remember, the 11+ selection tests are only required to be taken if you want your child to be considered to attend one of the grammar schools. This is why it is important that you complete the [link](#) in order to notify us of whether your child will be opting in or out.

### Special Access Arrangements (for the 11+ tests)

As the Secondary Transfer Test is not compulsory, parents/carers together with the staff should consider whether a child's specific Special Educational Needs would make them suitable to be placed in a grammar school and hence whether it would be appropriate or necessary for that child to take part in the Secondary Transfer Testing process. In the past, the Special Access Panel has been concerned that for some children there were difficulties that would impact on performance to such an extent that it would not have appeared to be in the interests of the child to be tested. In such instances, parents/carers might consider whether they wish to withdraw their child from the testing process (as above).

Please remember that applications for reasonable adjustments can only be made by Mr. Wanford, and you must have spoken to Mr. Wanford about this already. Decisions about special arrangements are made by a panel of experts in SEND and primary teaching and an educational psychologist, not Mr. Wanford or school staff.

I urge you to consider that the special access requests are aimed at children for whom the normal day-to-day delivery of the curriculum is adapted to meet their particular needs and where these needs will impact on the child's ability to access the test papers. Aspects that may affect performance in the test **may not** be considered.

### General Questions

As we said, we're here to help however we can, but please appreciate over the coming weeks, there may be a great deal of parental queries that we are replying to. Please could I just ask for your patience and support whilst we get back to everyone, and that we may advise that a telephone appointment or face-to-face meeting might be better at a mutually convenient time. Please remember you can also talk to myself, Mr. Wanford or your child's class teacher; we all have the same information and experience in this process.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully,



*Miss. Libby Thomassen*  
Deputy Headteacher