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27th May 2022

Dear parents and carers of the King's Leadership Academy Hawthornes Class of 2028,

I hope you have all had a great half-term of SATs and after-SATs! Now is the time for us to begin the process of preparing for the exciting times ahead as you transfer to King's Leadership Academy Hawthornes. We have a number of sessions planned to get you ready for September 2022:

Cross-Sefton Transition Day on 30th June

Our first day is the cross-Sefton Transition Day on 30th June, when all of the Year 6 students across the borough will visit their secondary schools. The day will begin at 8.17am, the time of day we always start at King's Hawthornes. We will meet in the Junior Yard, which for those of you who are new to us is the Springwell Park end of the school. The day will end at 2.50pm and students will be picked up from the same place.

1-1 meetings

The following week, on the evening of 5th July and 6th July, we will be holding our 1-1 meetings with families and carers. This will be your chance to meet a member of senior leadership and your child's form tutor. This will also be an opportunity for you to ask any questions you may have and for us all to begin to get to know each other better. This will be supplemented by a small group session for parents who will work with our colleagues from YKids to discuss the challenges and exciting opportunities that moving to a secondary school can bring. We will let parents know the day and time of the appointment after half-term.

Cost of living and uniform purchasing

I am sure we are all aware of the pressures caused by the recent rise in the cost of living. As a school, we are very conscious of the demands that our families are under financially. It has always been our intention to minimise these expenses as far as we can in terms of the cost of schooling to parents. This position has been supported by Great Schools Trust, the family of schools of which King's Leadership Academy Hawthornes is a part. We feel it is important and fair to provide a variety of additional materials at no cost to families such as:

- residential trips

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- Royal Marines Cadets
- educational visits
- breakfast and morning break toast
- a free Chromebook
- after school tuition programmes
- online library access
- Duke of Edinburgh scheme

It is my intention that this level of funding and opportunity will be maintained in the future as far as we are able.

School uniforms:

The government recently passed legislation requiring schools to examine the cost of school uniforms to families. Further to this, the Trust has revised its uniform policy in line with this legislation regarding the supply of uniforms to all of its schools. This will result in lowering the cost for families. For September 2023, uniforms and PE kit will be available via two options:

- an online ordering service
- via Paul's Place in Bootle

We will contact you after half-term with all of the details required for ordering uniforms.

Free PE Kit:

As a one-off this year, we have secured funding to provide our incoming Year 7 students with a free PE tracksuit and hoodie. This replaces the normal uniform on days when students have PE. This allows greater time for physical exercise and leads to more active bodies and minds. To claim your free items of PE uniform, you will be provided with a voucher to use at Paul's Place which will cover the cost.

I appreciate there is a lot to take in. Don't worry about anything, as the sessions will give you the answers to everything you need. As a school, we are here to help and listen and allow you to make the transition to secondary school both exciting and safe.

We look forward to seeing you after half-term.

Our very best wishes,



Mr Peter Gaul (Principal)