



Principal: Helen Corbett

8 June 2020

Dear parents and carers,

In my previous letter to you at the beginning of May I wrote about our priority to provide our new Year 7 students with the best transition possible and how, regardless of the uncertain times we find ourselves in, we will do everything we can to make their transition to secondary school positive and exciting.

All year groups at George Spencer Academy have a Director of Learning who leads and manages their cohort. This role is similar to a Head of Year role which you may be familiar with. However, it has the added focus of interweaving pastoral support and guidance with learning and progress. We regularly talk about being an ethos driven school with values at our heart and with this in mind we believe in wrap-around care for our students. The role of Director of Learning is central to overseeing this approach.

I would like to formally introduce Mr Smith as the Director of Learning for your child's year group next year. Mr Smith is an experienced member of staff at George Spencer Academy and is excited to take on the role having been very successful as a Director of Learning in our 6th Form. It is important to us that you get to know the person who will be overseeing your child's education and normally you would meet Mr Smith during an in-school event. Instead, Mr Smith will be filming a short presentation and will send this to you in the coming weeks so you are able to gain an insight into life in Year 7 at George Spencer Academy. In addition to this Mr Smith has produced a remote tour of our school for your child to take. The link for the tour is:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1cmTKrcrBXHKaUanI-pcYCPCAj1oKkeCr/view?usp=sharing>

We kindly ask you to watch this with your child and talk through the content.

As per the timeline Mr Hartley sent to you, Mr Smith will be writing to all students and will include a 'Getting to Know You' task as well as a quiz linked to the remote tour. We are eager to send home postcards to those who are successful in the quiz. Our over-arching aim is to start building strong relationships and hopefully remove anxieties children may have about starting a new school.

We know that one size does not fit all and we are working on bespoke offers for identified children. If you feel your child would require further support with transition in addition to the generic offer and the SEND offer please contact Mr Hartley at the school.

We very much look forward to working with you.

Yours sincerely

Mrs H Corbett
Principal