



15 May 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Firstly, I hope you and your families are all well in these difficult times.

It seems like a lifetime ago that I wrote to you in March after your child had been offered a place at Icknield Community College. In the original welcome pack we sent to you, we explained that some of the proposed dates and activities may well need to change as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

I am writing to you today to update you on plans for your child's transition to Icknield Community College.

Firstly, we had planned to speak to you all next Thursday at our annual Year 6/7 Transition Evening. Clearly, this can't happen in the normal format. However, Marian Carter, our Progress Manager for Year 7 students, will be putting together a presentation, with a voice over, responding to the questions you have sent to us. She will also be sharing some other key information. This will be sent to you soon.

We will not be able to run some of our normal transition activities including the Buddying Programme and the Transition Days in July. That said, we are currently working on alternative plans to ensure that your child's transition is as smooth as possible, despite the current circumstances. I will be in a virtual meeting with Headteachers of the Primary Partnership Schools early next week to explore what might be possible. Please be assured that, whatever our plans might be, your child's safety will be paramount.

It may be that, depending on governmental advice, we might not be able to have any transition activities taking place physically at Icknield Community College before the end of the summer term. If that is the case, please be assured that your child will have some transition time before the school opens again fully – whenever that may be.

Owing to such uncertainties about what the next few weeks will bring, our Summer School will not be taking place either this year now. Again, that said, we will be delivering the objectives of the summer school when students return properly to school, albeit in a different format. Our Finance Office will deal with any summer school refunds when they return to work.

If you do have any questions which are more COVID-19 related, we have set up an email address for parents: covidquestions@icknield.oxon.sch.uk. Emails that are sent to this address will not be responded to individually. Instead, we will look at them periodically and produce a Frequently Asked Questions response sheet. We are taking this approach because it is likely that many of you will want to ask the same questions.

I will be in touch with you all again shortly when we have been able to firm up some more concrete plans. In the meantime, please be assured that our staff are in communication with our primary colleagues to ensure that we have all the information we need to help your child make a successful start at secondary school.

Marian Carter will be in touch with you soon with the Transition Evening presentation.

With all best wishes for the coming weeks. All being well, I look forward to seeing you in the autumn term at one of our early Year 7 events.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "M. Hunter". The signature is written in a cursive style with a blue ink color.

Mat Hunter
Headteacher