

10 July 2020

Year 6 into Year 7 – Frequently Asked Questions

Will the Fox Cove residential be taking place?

No, in line with current DfE guidance, sadly, no residentials are taking place

Will Fox Cove happen at a later date?

We will not be planning anything off-site; however, we are looking at the possibility of having some of the activities on site. At this moment in time however, this idea is in its infancy.

Should I keep paying for Fox Cove?

No, no further payments should be made to Parent Pay.

How do I claim back money paid for Fox Cove?

Parent Pay will refund monies paid to date at the end of June. Parent pay refunds have now been issued back to parents.

What happens if I do not receive the money via Parent Pay?

Please wait until after 30 June, and then email our finance team at: finance@plymstockschool.org.uk

I'm unsure if I ever received the initial data pack that was sent out in March. What do I do?

Please contact Ms Sharon Cambridge, Office Manager. Sharon oversees the administration of Year 6 into Year 7 and will be able to help you. Her email address is: scambridge@plymstockschool.org.uk

Induction: Will anything be put in the place of on-site Induction to help Parents/Carers and Year 6 children?

Yes, we have a brand-new webpage dedicated to Year 6 - 7 Transition

<https://plymstockschool.org.uk/plymstock-transition-year-7-2020/>

This page has been designed to support Parents/Carers and new students, answering many of the questions you may have. Helpful videos including an address by the Head of Year 7, a virtual map of the school, in addition to the plethora of information that has been sent out to Year 6 Parents/Carers to date, can all now be found in one place. All further information relating to Year 6 into 7 will be added as and when.

Who is the Head of Year?

Mrs Kirk is the Head of Year mkirk@plymstockschool.org.uk

Mr Chivers is the Assistant Head of Year pchivers@plymstockschool.org.uk

Who is the SENCO?

Mrs Summers is the SENCO tsummers@plymstockschool.org.uk

Mrs Fenwick is the Assistant SENCO kfenwick@plymstockschool.org.uk

Ms Matthews is the Year 7 SEN Team Leader lmattthews@plymstockschool.org.uk

Who are the Transition Team?

Mrs Kirk, Mr Chivers, Mrs Summers, Mrs Fenwick and Ms Matthews

How does my child access the School Library?

Miss Hogben, Librarian, has created a virtual library along with Ms Burgess, Head of English, and Ms Oakley, Literacy Coordinator. Please visit as there is a lot to see and read, including a Lockdown Challenge and Year 6 reading opportunities.

<https://sites.google.com/plymstockschool.co.uk/library/home>

Whom do I contact now if I have any questions?

The school office can be called until 17 July 2020 on 01752 402679. After that date, please leave a message, as the voicemail will be checked daily so that we can call you back or you can email the Head of Year or Assistant Head of Year direct.

What happens if my child needs regular medication?

There are forms to be completed and available in reception, depending on the type of medication. Medication will be administered by a member of the First Aid team where appropriate.

What date does school start in September?

Year 7, begin on Monday 7 September 2020.

Will they be back in school on the first day?

Yes, we anticipate that all students will be back in school in their tutor group bubbles and that each year group will form a year group bubble.

What do students need to bring with them on the first day of term?

Pencil case, notebook, drink and lunch, if they are having pack lunch

Will my child know their tutor group?

No, every student will find out their new tutor group on their first day.

Will my child have to wear full school uniform?

Yes, under the current guidance students will be required to wear full school uniform to include blazer and a tie.

Will a student be in trouble for not having the correct equipment or uniform within the first few weeks?

No, there will be a transition period to enable parents to obtain all necessary uniform and equipment and for the students to get used to the new school procedures.

Am I permitted to drop my child and collect them from school?

Parents are not permitted to access the school site unless by prior arrangement. When dropping and collecting students you are required to do so from outside of the school gates in a safe location. This also includes the first day at secondary school.

School buses – will they still be coming on site direct for going home?

The school bus will continue its service and enter the school site. All normal safety measures will need to be in place when travelling on public transport.

How will I know what social distancing measures will be put in place at the time and when will I be informed?

Social distancing has already been put in place within the school environment along with extra measures such as additional cleaning and sanitisation.

How do I inform the school of absence?

You can call the main school number 01752 402679 and select option one. Leave your child's name, tutor group, reason for the absence and the day you expect them to return. Alternatively, once your child has enrolled at the school, all parents will be able to access MyEd and they can also report absences this way.

What will happen if my child or my family thinks we may have COVID-19 symptoms just as they are due to return to school? Who do I inform?

Inform the school via phone or using the MyEd app.

How will students be placed into groups for their lessons?

We have received assessment and additional information from each class teacher to assist our teachers in supporting students. Additional tests and assessments are planned for the autumn term to build a full picture of each student's strengths; for example, literacy and numeracy assessments. Teachers will be using this additional data to help support their work in the classroom to enable students to make progress throughout Year 7 from their starting point.

What can I do if I think my child is in the wrong set?

Email the child's teacher or Head of Year, with details. All sets are monitored closely in the first term and adjustments are then made where necessary.

What if my child has lost an item of school uniform or PE Kit?

It is important to NAME all of your child's uniform so that it can easily be reunited with them.

What are the rules for the use of mobile phones?

Students may bring a mobile phone to school, however it must be switched off and put away in their school bag during the school day.

Do the students need to complete the entire transition booklet, 'my best work' and 'Record of Achievement' Link Document and bring it with them on the first day of term?

If they are able to bring this with them, it would be appreciated so the tutors can get to know their new tutees.

Do we have to make the voluntary contribution on ParentPay?

The school fund goes towards resources for the students however, this is a voluntary payment.

PE

Due to the unique situation the COVID-19 pandemic has created and the complex planning that needs to be implemented within a secondary school, we will update all parents before the start of term, on specific arrangements for some lessons, for example PE. Further guidance is expected from the DfE in August, which will allow schools to confirm how risks can be mitigated to allow some activities to take place in an adapted but safe way.