



# Dronfield Henry Fanshawe School

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*Success with Care*

Headteacher: Mr M. J. Cooper

Ref: MJC/SDU

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Dear Parent/Carer,

I write to welcome your child to Dronfield Henry Fanshawe School (DHFS) and to provide further information about the school and our transition programme for students moving from Year 6 to Year 7. We are delighted that you are joining DHFS and can't wait to meet you and begin our journey together.

Moving to secondary school is an exciting event for students and their families but can also give rise to questions particularly when the child is the oldest in a family and the process is unfamiliar. Please be assured that our aim is to ensure that every child starts Year 7 confident that they will make excellent progress, achieve success and be strongly cared for whatever their background or level of ability. The majority of our new starters will come from our nearest local schools in the Partnership of Dronfield Schools (PODS) but we have students from over 30 schools in total and we will ensure that they all experience the best possible transition into our community. Staff from DHFS visit our local schools every year so your children may already have seen, met and spoken with key people that are an important part of the transition process. In addition, staff at DHFS regularly meet staff from PODS to plan and discuss transition arrangements to ensure as smooth and effective transfer as possible. Further to this, we have contact with schools that are outside the PODS cluster.

You will receive an Induction Pack in due course which will contain key information for you as your child begins their education with us and documentation which we will ask you to complete and return to us by a specified date. In addition to this, we will continue to work with your child's Primary school to obtain all the relevant information to secure a strong start for all students in September. If you have any particular questions or concerns at this stage, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Walters via email ([twalters@dhfs.uk](mailto:twalters@dhfs.uk)) or by telephone, on the main school number (01246 412372).

You will shortly receive an email from Mrs Walters, with regards to your child's friendship choices. Please look out for this email and ensure the deadline for submitting your child's request is met, as requests/changes after the deadline will not be able to be taken into consideration.

Further to getting to know your child and gathering information from schools and families, we run a number of sessions and events that have been successful in the past, including:

1. Primary School visits: traditionally, students in schools where the majority of Year 6 will move on to us are visited by staff and students. They talk about the day to day work of our school, uniform, the vertical House system, what happens on the first day in September and answer any questions about DHFS that Year 6 pupils may have.

2. Induction Week: it is planned that all students will visit and spend a full week with us in Term 6 commencing Monday 15<sup>th</sup> July 2024 and finishing on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2024 in order to begin to acquaint themselves with their fellow students, teachers and the geography of the site.
3. Induction Evening: each year we hold an evening for you and your child to meet with myself, Senior Staff and your child's support team (House Progress Leader, House Support Manager, Mentors and Learning Support Staff) at our school. The date for this is Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2024 at 6pm. We will keep you informed as the event approaches.
4. Year 6 Disco: we are pleased to be running the popular Year 6 disco again, which is scheduled for Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2024. An excellent opportunity for all incoming students to meet each other. Further details to follow.

In order to access more information about our school and our expectations you may wish to visit the school website [www.dhfs.uk](http://www.dhfs.uk) or follow us on twitter @DHFSUpdate. A video message for Y6 has been posted on the transition page of the website within the Admissions section, which can be found in the drop down menu on the Parents tab near the top of the home page. It can also be accessed following <https://dhfs.uk/y6-into-y7-transition/>

We are proud of the educational experiences we offer, our excellent school resources and the achievement of our students. A particular strength is our staff who are committed to ensuring that every child matters and that every child achieves their full potential. We are delighted that your child is joining us and are determined that they have a strong and effective transition to make the best possible start to the school.

Welcome to our school. We look forward to working with you in the years to come.



Mr M J Cooper  
Headteacher