



September 2020

Dear Year 6 Parent / Carer

Extraordinary, Unprecedented Times!

And just as you are getting your Year 6 children back into the routine of going to school and feeling confident that it was the right thing to do, I come along with information about moving to DCHS in September 2021.

My genuine apologies about this but the timeline for applying to your preferred secondary school has a deadline of the end of October..... seven weeks away. I expect online forms for this will be available on the NCC website in the next couple of weeks.

Because of Covid our usual routine of visiting primary schools, giving out our Prospectus and inviting your children to Open Evenings has been ripped up. Like all schools at present we are spending all of our time in the first few weeks of term making sure our own students are safe and learning, and keeping visitors to a minimum. We are very positive about how this term has started and look forward to sharing our stories on our website and twitter as we move forward through the year.

What I can say, similar to all our Primary Schools, is that we have worked incredibly hard over the lockdown period to make sure we continue to have the confidence of our community. We have had many positive comments from our existing parents as to how we have gone about this and hope that you too have heard, on the grapevine, what we were doing. I hope you have heard the same since we have returned this month.

This week we have put an electronic copy of our 2021 Prospectus on our website ([found here](#)) along with a copy of this letter. The prospectus is written in a style that believes that we will have returned to some level of pre-pandemic normality for September 2021. We recognise this may change but I am not keen on doing too much crystal ball gazing at this time.

I believe that we can offer our new Year 7 an exciting and challenging experience within a safe environment. They will be taught by teachers who will work with them all the way from Year 7 to GCSE and beyond. Our pastoral and support teams are confident and knowledgeable and will go that extra mile to provide the care that children need at this age.

Over the coming weeks we will update you with further information including virtual tours of the school, create a constantly updated Frequently Asked Questions page and, when time and circumstances allow, real visits to your childrens' schools.

So...in many ways this is an initial, introductory letter from myself that I hope spurs you on to find out more. I will be talking to my Primary School Headteacher colleagues over the coming days to find out how we can all support your children in this transition year. Together we will make sure we get this right for your children so they are able to enjoy their last year at their present school with the confidence that we are all working together.

I will make sure keep you updated.

Take Care, Be Kind, Keep Safe

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. R. Hall', with a long, sweeping flourish extending from the end.

Maurice Hall
Headteacher