

Dear parent/carer

We hope this letter finds you well and that you are managing to stay as safe as you can at this difficult time.

Year 6 may not have ended quite as we expected it to for our young people but we are still very much looking forward to welcoming them to our school in September and will do everything we can to make this important transition as smooth as possible.

As you are aware, the government have not announced a timeline or date for the reopening of schools and so we are unable to make any definite plans for students to come into school before the start of the new academic year.

We are however, working very closely with our primary school colleagues and have also created a new area on our school website for Year 6 students and parents to access. We will use this to publish all of the guidance and information which we usually share with families at the one-to-one meetings as well as sending paper copies home nearer the time.

On a practical note, please do not worry about acquiring the correct uniform for now. At the time of writing, our supplier Emblematic are not taking any orders. We will write to you nearer the time with further guidance on uniform, school shoes and equipment.

In the meantime, there is lots you can do to help your child prepare for high school. Here are some suggestions:

- Look at the Year 6 Transition area on the George Stephenson High School website. Here you will find a student transition booklet which your child may like to work through as part of their home-schooling work. The area of the website will also include photos and names of key staff, timings of the school day, a map of the school and other useful information. We will add further resources to this area throughout the coming weeks.
- Look at the resources on the BBC Bitesize website on 'Starting Secondary School' <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zj2grj6>
- If you are planning to walk to school, as part of your one hour's exercise per day you could practise walking the route to school together.
- Support your child in revisiting any key areas, especially in English and Maths, which they find difficult.
- Encourage them to use the time they have to research areas of interest to them which can be further developed at high school.
- Talk to your child about careers and ambitions. They could create a timeline starting with the beginning of Year 7 and ending with their career choices, plotting key targets on the way.
- Finally, encourage them to keep reading!

If you have any queries about your child's move to George Stephenson High School, please email us on [enquiries@gshs.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@gshs.org.uk)

Best wishes to you and your families,

Mrs L Dunn  
Assistant Headteacher

Mr M Bell  
Transition Co-ordinator