



Tuesday, 14th September 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

We are writing to express how impressed we are with the manner in which our new Year 7 students have settled into life at St Mary's College and to thank you for your support thus far. The overwhelming majority of Year 7 students have displayed exemplary behaviour since starting St Mary's College and the Year Group's attendance is superb. Year 7 students are embracing the new challenges and opportunities at secondary school and are demonstrating our school ethos and values well by interacting with staff and students respectfully. Each day we are receiving positive reports about how mature, enthusiastic and well-mannered Year 7 are and we are very encouraged by how well they are working together as Tutor Groups and as a Year Group within our school community. We have received an unprecedented number of 'Good News Friday' nominations for our new Year 7 students. This is our weekly rewards system whereby staff nominate students who have really impressed them in lessons and tutors share this information with their tutor groups each Friday morning. The number of nominations Year 7 have received in this short period of time is testament to their excellent start to St Mary's College and their diligent, enthusiastic approach to lessons. We are also very proud of how respectful Year 7 students have been of our Covid-safe protocols within school and how quickly using hand gel regularly, wearing masks where requested, maintaining appropriate distance wherever possible and following the one-way system within the Year 7 zone have become routine practices.

The vast majority of Year 7 students are managing the increased independence and responsibility required at secondary school very well. Thank you for checking your child has all the equipment required for each day and signing their planner each week, for ensuring their cashless catering card is credited with sufficient funds online, and for your support with the completion of homework. A big well done to all who completed the booklet of work sent home in the Transition period which we hope provided our new students with some preparation for the types of activities they will now be experiencing in lessons. Thank you especially for your support of our uniform policy – our new Year 7 students look extremely smart and are wearing their uniforms with pride. A reminder to please ensure your child's full name is on all items of uniform and equipment so that it can be returned if misplaced. Please also ensure your child has their lanyard, equipment and cashless catering card each day.

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CEO
Mr G Fitzpatrick

Head of School
Mrs M Stead



We have distributed stickers this week which detail who your child's Personal tutor is. This will be one of their form tutors or a member of the Year 7 Pastoral team. At St Mary's College we pride ourselves on being able to offer personalised support to each student, so each child has a Personal tutor who is responsible for checking on their academic and social progress and setting appropriate targets for continued success (which are recorded in your child's planner for your reference) as well as addressing any concerns, worries or problems.

Your child will have a one to one meeting with their Personal tutor each term and their Personal tutor will also interpret key information from your child's subject teachers to share with parents/carers at appropriate times in the school year – thus, you have one key point of contact at school. Please use your child's planner to communicate with your child's Personal tutor should this be required. Alternatively, please do not hesitate to contact the Year 7 office should you or your child have any worries or queries but please be aware that the Year 7 office is not an administrative office and as such is not manned at all times during the day when the Year 7 Pastoral team are teaching or supporting in lessons. We will always respond to messages when the phones are checked upon our return to the office and emails are also checked throughout the day (Year7office@smchull.org).

We look forward to seeing our new students build on the positive start they have made to secondary school and are confident they will enjoy continued success as this term progresses. We would like to thank you again for your support with all aspects of your child's transition to St Mary's College and look forward to working with you throughout this academic year.

Yours sincerely,

A Ramsden

Miss A Ramsden
(Head of Transition)

L Williams

Mrs L Williams
(Head of Year 7)