



The Talentum Learning Trust

**Westwood
College**

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**CEO & Executive Headteacher: Mr A Shaw
Headteacher: Mr M Taylor**

Our Ref: TYL/MGD/jc

July 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

WELCOMING OUR NEW YEAR 9 STUDENTS

The summer term each year is an exciting time as we look forward to welcoming new students to Westwood College. As I am sure you appreciate, we are having to do things differently this year, with regards to our Induction Programme for Year 8 students starting Westwood in September. In the final weeks of term, we have traditionally held a new intake evening at Westwood for the students and their Parents/Carers, and an Induction Week where students would spend time in lessons and get to meet staff.

Due to the impact of Covid 19, we are having to alter our plans. However, we remain committed to giving our new students and their Parents/Carers an insight into what can be expected when the Autumn term begins and to making them feel as welcome as possible.

What follows is information on our revised Induction Programme.

College website – information for new intake

Over the coming weeks we will continue to add material to the College website, in the 'New Intake Students 2020' section, under the Parent tab. Here you will find, a range of useful information and induction activities, including:

- A virtual film tour of Westwood produced by our Year 12 students;
- Filmed welcome introductions from our Year 9 team of tutors;
- Details of competitions run by different subject areas (with prizes!);
- An Information booklet about the College, including our uniform and behaviour policies;
- A form to be completed online by Parents/Carers (available for completion after 6th July).

New Intake video

In place of this year's New Intake evening we have produced a video that covers the material that would have been presented if we had been able to go ahead as normal. The video gives students and their Parents/Carers the opportunity to be introduced to myself as the Head of Year, along with Assistant Headteacher Mrs Reader and Headteacher Mr Taylor. The video will be added to the website alongside the material listed above.

Tutor Groups

You will be shortly contacted by Mrs Reader, one of our Assistant Headteachers, regarding the tutor group your child has been allocated at Westwood. The process of allocating students to tutor groups has been undertaken very



carefully, taking into account a range of information, including the online questionnaire that we asked Year 8 students to complete on our website.

Induction Days

The current Government restrictions have severely limited how many students can be at College at any one time. As such we are currently planning for the new Year 9 students to spend a short time at Westwood during **Wednesday 15th July** with the rest of their tutor group only. They will be given a tour of the College and will meet Mr Morgan and other staff, where available. Each tutor group will be allocated a slot during that day. Parents/Carers will be notified of their child's allocated tutor group slot and we will ask Parents/Carers to indicate if their child will be able to attend.

In the circumstances, we will not be able to provide transport to and from College, so students and Parents/Carers will need to make their own arrangements for this where necessary. Given the situation, attendance is not compulsory but we would obviously hope to see as many of the students as possible take part.

We hope that the information on our website and the planned activities will provide a useful insight into what Westwood has to offer and provide reassurance to students starting in Year 9. We really hope that your child is looking forward to starting their education at Westwood College. I can assure you that we are excited about the prospect of welcoming them and we are committed to making them feel happy and settled as quickly as possible.

Yours faithfully



Mr D Morgan
Head of Year 9