



WILLIAM HARDING SCHOOL
Aim high... Work hard... Be kind...

WILLIAM HARDING SCHOOL
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24 May 2023

Dear parents and carers,

Re: Transition & Move Up, Stay Up (MUSU)

Transition Day – Tuesday 4th July

On Tuesday 4th July all children will be moving up to their new classes for the morning. There will be no changes to the start and end times of the day and the children will begin and end their day in their current class. We are pleased to say that this year we will be running Move Up, Stay Up (MUSU) again to support our children’s transition to their new classes.

What is MUSU?

MUSU is a strategy to support transition between each year group and to reduce any anxiety, whereby classes move up to their new teacher and classroom in July, rather than waiting for September. Teachers and school staff will get to meet their class and have the classrooms set up in readiness. Pupils will know where their classroom is and which staff will be working with them and will have already learnt the new routines, prior to the summer holidays. This ensures the return to school in September is smooth for all. This model provides a longer transition period which benefits all pupils and allows staff to ensure they understand each individual pupil’s needs prior to September, to enable them to support them even more effectively.

When is MUSU?

MUSU will begin on Monday the 10th of July. In cases where new staff may be joining us for September, some classes may not be taught by their new teacher for the entirety of MUSU. In these cases, these classes will be taught by an experienced adult who will still focus on settling the pupils into their new class, routines and expectations and will pass on all the information gathered to the class teacher prior to September.

As well as this, we will be running meetings where the current class teacher will be handing information over to the new class teacher to support this transition. The SEN team and the pastoral team will also be involved in handing over information.

What happens during MUSU?

During the first week of MUSU the pupils will complete the final lessons from their current units of work, in their current books.

Our School Values are: Inclusion, Perseverance, Honesty, Respect, Responsibility and Collaboration.



During the week commencing 17th July, teachers will teach morning lessons as normal and the afternoon sessions will be focused on wellbeing, school values, LORIC, British values and SMSC, to support our pupils with their transition to their new year groups and the routines of the day. This will allow staff members to set out clear expectations for behaviour, routines, handwriting and presentation, relevant to their new year group.

Year 6 will have a transition package during MUSU in readiness for secondary school, including English and Maths, getting used to different teachers, transition units, well-being work, projects and end of term celebrations.

Class groups will mostly remain as they are with some movement of pupils who staff feel would be better suited to another cohort group or teacher - this will be a discussion with the class teacher, year leader, SENDCO and SLT. This will be shared with you before transition and with clear reasoning explained.

What about pick-up and drop-off?

Prior to MUSU, the pupils will be shown their new pick up/drop off points so that any anxiety or worry is reduced. You will then need to drop off and collect from their new pick-up and drop-off points from Monday 10th July.

There will be a further letter detailing which classes will be going where and to which teacher and this will also include the pick-up and drop-off locations and timings.

For our SEN and vulnerable pupils, the SEN team and pastoral team will be doing extra transition work and providing support as needed. If you have any concerns about your child and feel they will need additional support, please get in touch with the school via the office email address.

We have recently had a Local Authority visitor on site who observed the collection of the children at the end of the day and the taxi arrangements. She was very impressed with the arrangements and how well we safeguard our families. This echoed the comments made by both Ofsted and the Family First Quality Mark assessor who both praised the arrangements we have in place for drop off and collection. We have reviewed our procedures and these will remain unchanged for next school year.

Parent Information Presentations

We are very excited to be able to have face to face parent events again this year where you will be able to meet your child's new year group team and find out about the year ahead. If you are unable to make the event you will be able to see the presentation on the year group pages on our website.

- **Welcome to Year 1 – Monday 10th July 5pm**
- **Welcome to Year 2 – Monday 10th July 5.45pm**
- **Welcome to Year 3 – Tuesday 11th July 5pm**
- **Welcome to Year 4 – Tuesday 11th July 5.45pm**
- **Welcome to Year 5 – Thursday 13th July 5pm**
- **Welcome to Year 6 – Thursday 13th July 5.45pm**

Gifts

We understand that some parents wish to give gifts to their child's class teacher and many teachers wish to give gifts to their pupils also. If you wish to do so, they will need to come in before the 10th July with your child. I know that some parents sent email vouchers which were very gratefully received.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Skinner

Inclusion, Pastoral and Safeguarding Lead

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