

St. Joseph's Catholic College Year 6 Transition Update:

Dear Year 6 Parents and Carers,

We are very excited about the transition your children are going to make from primary to secondary education. It is frustrating that the current pandemic has prevented us from meeting you in person this term or even be able to invite you onto the College site. As the government continues to reveal its strategy about reducing the COVID19 lockdown, we are preparing for the launch of the new academic year.

Year 6 transition visits for both students and parents are not permitted under the current guidance and we are looking at the start of the new academic year as being the first possible time to welcome your children to an induction process. Whether this can happen as a whole year group or as smaller units (perhaps tutor groups) remains to be seen, as the regulations we have to work within are shaped by the changing nature of the pandemic. We will contact you as soon as it is possible to give you a date for the induction day.

We understand there are many questions about the start of the academic year and we want to make communication with as easy as possible over the next five weeks. As information becomes available about the induction process, we will contact you directly. We welcome your questions and we will attempt to collate these and address them collectively through our communications with you. Please send any questions you have to ddaglish@stjosephscollege.net.

We will also be providing links with other services in Swindon that want to support the transition of Year 6 students to secondary school. Again, we will directly contact you about this provision.

Parents normally have the opportunity to come to a College uniform pop-up shop in June. We are unable to host pop-up shops within the current restrictions. Parents who want to buy uniform can do so online by visiting our supplier's website:

<http://www.academyschooluniforms.co.uk/>

Telephone: 0115 965 2869

We understand the challenges of buying the branded items of uniform such as blazers and PE shirts, when sizing is unfamiliar. We will be starting the academic year with a reduced uniform expectation, with all students being asked to wear black trousers, a white shirt and black, leather-look, school shoes. It will be possible to purchase a College tie from reception and the other branded items will be available from pop-up shops as soon as it is possible to hold them on the College site.

We will be in contact over the coming weeks to keep you informed of the latest developments.

Regards,

Mr Stoten