

4th March 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcoming our new Year 9 to Wootton Upper School

I am writing to extend a warm welcome from our pupils, staff and governors to you and your child. We are delighted that your child has been offered a place at Wootton Upper School from September 2022.

Our three core values are: **aspiration, opportunity for all** and **belief in ourselves**. Our values underpin the Trust motto "*the pursuit of excellence*". As you and your children prepare to embark on their journey through our upper school, we hope you and they are excited by the opportunities that are available to all and are ambitious to do well.

The vast majority of our Year 9 pupils are currently at Marston Vale Middle School or Holywell School. If your child currently attends another school we will make sure we liaise fully with them too. We work with middle schools to group our new intake into appropriate form groups, and ensure that those from other schools are placed carefully to support their transition.

We want you to feel informed and confident in preparing your child for their start at Wootton Upper School.

Post offer assembly which includes information about or curriculum.

We will deliver an assembly at Marston Vale Middle School and Holywell School in the next two weeks. This will further introduce your child to Wootton Upper School and will give information about the range of option choices.

We are very proud of our Year 9 curriculum, which offers your child an opportunity to choose a number of subjects to study in preparation for choosing their GCSE subjects next academic year. We will post this assembly information on our website, on 15 March, under **Key Documents** and **New Intake**. <https://www.woottonupper.co.uk/new-intake-2022>

We encourage all pupils to look at the information about the school with their family. After the Easter holidays we will send out information about how to select options. Pupils will complete their choices in an online form.

How can I contact the school?

We have a dedicated email address: y9transition@wootton.beds.sch.uk . This is monitored daily during term time and emails passed to the relevant staff. You can also telephone the school on 01234 767123.

Further information?

You and your child can revisit the information we shared before you made your selection of school. This information can still be found on our website.

All our current communication is also uploaded onto our website and I would encourage you to dip into this: [Wootton Upper School - Learning in 2021](#). We share a Summary of Work for each year group each half term, as well as links to the Apps we use, and letters sent to our families.

What happens next?

We will write to you after Easter regarding making options choices.

Our Executive Principal, Mr Gleeson, will write to you regarding becoming part of Wootton Academy Trust.

I will write to you again, once options are underway, regarding a Parent/Carer information event in June and the Transition Day in July.

Our pastoral staff and SENDCo will work with colleagues from all our feeder schools to ensure we have information about pupils to support their transition.

We will identify children who may need more support through the transition process to upper school, in particular considering children with barriers to learning, those who may be more anxious than others, as well as pupils who are not currently attending our two main feeder schools.

We will gather your child's preferences for their option and finalise our timetable for 2022-2023.

We will communicate with you regarding our uniform and other practical arrangements.

This is the beginning of what we hope for many of our pupils will be a five-year journey with Wootton Academy Trust. I hope you and your child are as excited about that as we are.

Yours faithfully



Mrs McMorn

Head of School