
21st August 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am writing to give more details about the arrangements for year 7 mini-matriculation during the week of the 7th September.

Each year 7 tutor group will be expected to attend school for one day during the week of 7th September for mini-matriculation activities. This day is compulsory for all year 7 cygnets - they will get to know their classmates and teachers as well as starting to learn more about our school values and routines. Matriculation is a vital part of our school year as it helps us to lay the strong foundations which ensure our students are able to be successful in their studies. We will also be doing baseline tests during this day, which will help us to get a better understanding of how best to support our students and who might benefit additional interventions.

Year 7 mini-matriculation will be held as follows:

- 7L (Berners-Lee) - Monday 7th September
- 7Y (Yousefzai) - Tuesday 8th September
- 7H (Hawking) - Wednesday 9th September
- 7B (Bannister) - Thursday 10th September

Please check the attached document carefully to see which mini-matriculation day your child is invited to attend. Please get in touch if you are unsure which tutor group your child is in or which day they need to attend.

Key Details

- **Timing** - Students should arrive at **9am for a 9.15am start**. They will be dismissed at **3.15pm**.
- **Location** - Mini-matriculation will be held at Cherwell School, South Site. Students should be dropped off and collected from the **rugby clubhouse** (NOT at Cherwell School) next to The Swan's old temporary building (this is where you will have attended any open events or enrolment interviews - please see our website for a map.)
- **Collection/Drop-off** - due to Covid-19 restrictions, parents/carers will not be able to gather in groups for drop-off and collection; this is to help us maintain social distancing. Please arrive as close to the time as possible and be prepared to leave promptly. Please note that students do not need to be dropped off/collected by parents - it is very common for secondary school students to travel by themselves.

-
- Uniform and Equipment - students should wear their **school uniform and bring their pencil case** with them. We also recommend that students bring with them their own hand sanitiser.
 - Lunch - unfortunately we will not have catering facilities available at Cherwell. Students will need to bring a **packed lunch and their own water bottle**. Please ensure that your child's lunch does not include nuts.
 - Tutor Groups - we had originally planned to make decisions about tutor groups during matriculation week, however this has changed in order to help us make the most of our shortened matriculation. Children will be able to get to know their classmates from their very first day. We have allocated students to tutor groups based on gender, prior attainment, primary schools, and student preferences. Where students have siblings in year 8, we have tried to allocate them to the same house as their older brother or sister. Tutor groups may be subject to some changes as we get to know the children better.
 - Attendance - attendance is compulsory for year 7 cygnets. Please communicate with us in advance if there are any issues so that we can support your child to attend. If your child is ill on the day and unable to attend, please follow our normal absence procedures by calling the school office on 01865 416070.

We are very much looking forward to meeting all of our year 7 students again and starting their journey to becoming successful cygnets. Please do let us know if you have any further questions about mini-matriculation.

Yours sincerely,



Ms. Kay Wood (Headteacher)