



6 June 2023

Dear Year 6 Parents, Carers and Students,

Welcome to Bower Park Academy. We are looking forward to welcoming our new Year 7 cohort in September, and are writing to you to outline some of the key details regarding the transition to secondary school. Part of our role in the transition process is to ensure that everything runs as smoothly and manageably as possible. Therefore, we continually adapt our transition process to ensure that students arrive at BPA physically, mentally and emotionally prepared for this next phase of their education.

Starting secondary school is an exciting stage, and we very much hope that your child is looking forward to joining us and experiencing all that Bower Park has to offer. We do, of course, recognise that, along with the sense of excitement, there will understandably be a few nerves for pupils, carers and parents alike, and we endeavour to ensure that our transition process will help to overcome these.

June Transition Day

This year, the main transition day for all our new intake of Year 7 pupils will be Wednesday, 28th June, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. This day is a very important part of the transition, as it will give your child a chance to spend the day getting to know their new school prior to starting full-time in September. The day is designed to be fun, but also informative, and will include lots of opportunities to explore the school site, meet new classmates and experience some lessons.

All primary schools in Havering are aware of the date of our transition day. For the visit, we would like students to wear their primary school P.E. kit, and they are expected to bring a bag containing sun cream, a water bottle, packed lunch and a pencil case/stationery for lessons. If your child receives free school meals, a packed lunch will be supplied by our canteen. Please note that, other than free school meals, students will not be available from the canteen on this day.

Parental Welcome Evening

We very much understand that the transition process is not only important for pupils, but for parents and carers too. This year we will be holding a welcome evening for new parents and carers, which will be held in the South Hall on Wednesday, 28th June, from 4:15 to 5:45 p.m. This will involve a short presentation on aspects of school life at Bower Park Academy, and will give an opportunity for parents to meet key staff, including the Year 7 team, and key members of the leadership team, where they will introduce themselves and talk through the September start. To avoid overcrowding, you will need to select which of the two sessions (4:15 p.m. or 5 p.m.) you would like to attend, by [following this link](#):



Uniform and Equipment

You can begin preparing for life at Bower Park Academy before the September start by purchasing our uniform from Havering Schoolwear, 160-162 Hornchurch Road, Hornchurch. All Year 7s will be required to wear a purple-coloured tie. Havering Schoolwear representatives will be available in the school canteen at Bower Park on Wednesday, 28th June, from 2:15 p.m., and you are invited to look at our uniform and make orders at this time.

Summer School

We would like to run a summer school this year, but this will depend on the numbers interested, as government funding for these events has ceased. This has resulted in parents/carers being required to pay. The provisional dates are between Monday, 24th July, and Wednesday, 26th July, and more information will follow regarding this to assess the level of interest.

Tutor Groups

On our transition day, your child will be placed in a group, but this is not their tutor group. Towards the end of June, we will be creating seven mixed-ability tutor groups, using knowledge and advice from primary school colleagues, as well as our extensive experience of transition. We will let you know which group your child is due to join before the end of term.

Information Sheet

It is vital that Bower Park has the most up-to-date information for all students at the school, including that on your completed data collection sheet. This information allows us to communicate regularly with parents and carers whilst, more importantly, ensuring that your children are safe and cared for. The following link will give you access to the data collection sheet, which should be completed and sent back to us as soon as possible. Paper copies of this form are available at the school reception from Friday, 9th June.

Communication

We have created a Year 6 transition page on our website. This page will be updated regularly with news and information ahead of your child joining in September, and we hope that you will check this at least fortnightly from now on. [Click here to visit our website.](#)

We hope that this initial information is useful and gives you an idea of our structured programme as we move through the summer term. Please contact the school reception should you have any further questions. We look forward to meeting you and your child in the very near future.



Mr E. Aylett
Principal



Ms D. Charlton
Assistant Principal and Transition Lead