



# Elmwood School

King George Crescent, Rushall, Walsall, West Midlands, WS4 1EG

TEL: 01922 721081

Email: [postbox@elmwood.walsall.sch.uk](mailto:postbox@elmwood.walsall.sch.uk) Website: [www.elmwood.walsall.sch.uk](http://www.elmwood.walsall.sch.uk)

Headteacher: Mr. L. Cross, BA Hons. MSc, NPQH

Deputy Headteacher: Mrs G Francis, BA Hon, NPQML, Assistant Headteacher: Mr M Hawkes, BA Hons, NPQSL

GF/LC/DEC

22nd May 2024

To all Parents and Carers of pupils joining Year 7 in September 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

## RE: INFORMATION UPDATE

With the end of term rapidly approaching, I am writing to update you with some information ahead of your child joining Elmwood School. Obviously, the move from Primary to Secondary School is always a little daunting for both child and parent/carer but we are hopeful that with the transition arrangements we have in place these will help alleviate many anxieties.

We have therefore arranged for 3 consecutive Thursdays (27<sup>th</sup> June, 4<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> July) to occur as Year 6 transition days when pupils in this year group will have the opportunity to spend time in their new form groups, and experience learning episodes across all areas of the curriculum. We have previously found that having this unique time in school to adjust to their new school surroundings and, the opportunity to form relationships with their key staff, has proved beneficial in helping pupils to adjust and settle ahead of their September start. Feeder schools are aware of these transition dates and will be supporting your child over these three days. Pupils will need to arrive at Elmwood for 9:15 am with a 1:25 pm pick-up from Elmwood (Phoenix pupils can be collected and returned to their primary school).

Our school cook will be on site and will be able to provide a choice of a hot meal, jacket potato or baguette for your child or if they prefer to bring their own packed lunch, then this is of course fine; the cost of a paid school meal will be £2.99. Pupils should attend in non-school uniform every day as this will enable practical learning to occur, in addition the requirement for an outdoor coat is essential due to taking part in outdoor activities.

Due to training days at the start of term and to allow staff sufficient time to prepare classrooms ahead of welcoming your child, Year 7 pupils will start on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> September. From previous experience a staggered return by pupils following a long break reduces any behavioural difficulties and medical issues ensuring a calm environment for our younger students to join the community. We will inform the transport department of this date who will write to you in due course with details of the provider and a pick up time.



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Dyslexia Friendly School Level 1 Award

Walsall's Anti-Bullying Charter Mark – Silver Award



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For information our normal school day is as follows:

Pupils arrive at school	8.40 am
Pupils break time	11.00 am to 11.10 am
Pupils lunch time	12.00 pm to 12.30 pm
Pupils depart school	14.25 pm

As you may be aware we have a strict uniform policy and students must attend school wearing the appropriate clothing. This consists of a grey polo shirt, black trousers, black shoes and the option of either a black logoed sweatshirt or fleece jacket. Our students wear their uniform with pride and are excellent ambassadors for the School. If you require any uniform items the prices are as listed below and these can be ordered via the School Office or directly from the supplier, A J Designs, [www.a4jdesigns.co.uk/school-uniform-store/elmwood-school](http://www.a4jdesigns.co.uk/school-uniform-store/elmwood-school) :-

Polo shirts	£7.95 to £9.95
Sweatshirts	£9.95 to £12.50
Fleece jacket	£16.50 to £19.25
PE top	£8.50 to £9.95

Any orders made through school will need to be placed by Monday 8th July in readiness for these items to be available from school at the start of term (2<sup>nd</sup> September 2024).

A reminder that students also require a PE kit and clothes to wear for outdoor learning lessons which need to be items that they feel comfortable wearing. We have also organised for Tempest Photographers to visit School on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> September to capture our new pupils' photographs, sample pictures will be sent home following this visit.

Enclosed is a copy of our parental handbook which includes various forms that I would ask you to complete and return when possible (to avoid postage costs, these can be sent in with your child on their transition visits. For reference copies of this document as well as other useful information are available on our school website. I have also enclosed a copy of our latest newsletter for your information, which I hope you enjoy reading (copies of our monthly newsletter are also available on our school website).

I look forward to working with you next year and together ensuring that your child is as successful as he/she can possibly be.

Yours sincerely

MRS G FRANCIS  
DEPUTY HEADTEACHER

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