



WILLIAM HARDING SCHOOL
Aim high... Work hard... Be kind...

WILLIAM HARDING SCHOOL

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14 May 2024

Dear parents and carers,

Re: Transition & Move Up, Stay Up (MUSU)

Transition Day – Tuesday 2nd July

On Tuesday 2nd July all children will be moving up to their new classes for the morning. There will be no changes to the start and end times of the day and the children will begin and end their day in their current class. We are pleased to say that this year we will be running Move Up, Stay Up (MUSU) again to support our children's transition to their new classes. This has worked well to support the children for the last few years.

What is MUSU?

MUSU is a strategy to support transition between each year group and to reduce any anxiety, whereby classes move up to their new teacher and classroom in July, rather than waiting for September. Teachers and school staff will get to meet their class and have the classrooms set up in readiness. Pupils will know where their classroom is and which staff will be working with them and will have already learnt the new routines, prior to the summer holidays. This ensures the return to school in September is smooth for all. This model provides a longer transition period which benefits all pupils and allows staff to ensure they understand each individual pupil's needs prior to September, to enable them to support them even more effectively.

When is MUSU?

MUSU will begin on Monday the 8th of July. In cases where new staff may be joining us for September, some classes may not be taught by their new teacher for the entirety of MUSU. In these cases, these classes will be taught by an experienced adult who will still focus on settling the pupils into their new class, routines and expectations and will pass on all the information gathered to the class teacher prior to September.

As well as this, we will be running meetings where the current class teacher will be handing information over to the new class teacher to support this transition. The SEN team and the pastoral team will also be involved in handing over information.

What happens during MUSU?

During the mornings, the children will complete transition work in English and maths. Staff will ensure that lessons focus on areas that the class needs to spend a little more time on.

Our School Values are: Inclusion, Perseverance, Honesty, Respect, Responsibility and Collaboration.



During the afternoons, sessions will be focused on wellbeing, school values, LORIC, British values and SMSC, to support our pupils with their transition to their new year groups and the routines of the day. This will allow staff members to set out clear expectations for behaviour and routines relevant to their new year group.

The children will also be exploring a piece of art work during the afternoon sessions. This is a project called Take One Picture. It is an annual project run by the National Gallery.

The current Year 6 will have a transition package during MUSU in readiness for secondary school, including English and Maths, getting used to different teachers, transition units, well-being work, projects and end of term celebrations.

Class groups will mostly remain as they are with some movement of pupils who staff feel would be better suited to another cohort group or teacher - this will be a discussion with the class teacher, year leader, SENDCO and ELT. This will be shared with you before transition and with clear reasoning explained.

What about pick-up and drop-off?

Prior to MUSU, the pupils will be shown their new pick up/drop off points so that any anxiety or worry is reduced. You will then need to drop off and collect from their new pick-up and drop-off points from Monday 8th July.

There will be a further letter detailing which classes will be going where and to which teacher and this will also include the pick-up and drop-off locations and timings.

For our SEN and vulnerable pupils, the SEN team and pastoral team will be doing extra transition work and providing support as needed. If you have any concerns about your child and feel they will need additional support, please get in touch with the school via the office email address.

Meet the Teacher – Monday 15th July

On Monday 15th July we will hold a meet the teacher session. Meet the teacher will start at 3pm. Parents coming to meet the teacher will be let in through the pedestrian gate and will come in through the main entrance. As this is the first day of MUSU, your child and their new teacher will be in their new classroom. There will be staff on hand to help you to find the new classroom.

The aim of this session for parents to say hello to the new teacher and see the new classroom. If you need to speak to the new teacher at length about your child, we ask that you make a separate appointment. The classrooms will be full of other parents and children and so it would not be appropriate to have those conversations during this session.

As this is the start of the second week of MUSU the children will have only completed a couple of lessons in books and so their books will not be available to view.

When you have met the new teacher, you can take your child / children home with you straight away rather than having to wait at the gate as normal. You do not have to wait until the end of the school day. The teacher must sign your child / children out before you take them with you. You can take your children to meet the teachers of your other children as long as they are signed out with their teacher. You will leave via the front entrance.

This session is not open to parents of the Y6 children going up to secondary school in September as we will not have secondary school teachers here.

Gifts

We understand that some parents wish to give gifts to their child's class teacher and many teachers wish to give gifts to their pupils also. If you wish to do so, they will need to come in before the 8th July with your child. I know that some parents sent email vouchers which were very gratefully received.

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Yours sincerely

Mrs Skinner

Inclusion, Pastoral and Safeguarding Lead

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