

**Headteacher**Mr T Macdonald

Place of registration: England



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@CHAcademyTweets

Wednesday 30th August 2023

Dear Year 7 Students and Parents/Carers,

# A Warm Welcome to Cheslyn Hay Academy

I hope you have had a wonderful summer holiday and are looking forward to starting your educational journey with us at Cheslyn Hay and Windsor Academy Trust.

Transitioning to a new school is undoubtedly a significant step, and we are committed to making this transition as smooth as possible for both students and parents. At Cheslyn Hay, we understand the importance of fostering a nurturing environment where every individual feels valued, supported, and inspired to excel.

## To our Year 7 Students:

As you join us at Cheslyn Hay, you are embarking on a new chapter filled with opportunities for growth, discovery, and friendship. Here, you will encounter a dynamic curriculum designed to challenge and engage your intellect, as well as a range of extracurricular activities to explore your passions. I know you will enjoy your time and thrive at Cheslyn Hay and look forward to welcoming you properly next Tuesday morning.

#### **To Parents and Carers:**

We understand that entrusting your child's education to a new institution requires a great deal of trust, and we take this responsibility seriously. Our commitment to academic excellence is matched only by our dedication to the well-being of your child - we are thoroughly committed to our mission to **unlock the academic and personal potential** of all our students. We are looking forward to starting this journey with you and your child next Tuesday, and I thought I would write to you with a couple of reminders for the start of the new school year.

#### **Start of Term Arrangements**

We start next **Tuesday**, at the usual school time of **8.35am**. We are keen that all students arrive able to get to their form room for 8.35am each morning for a prompt start to the form session - an important part of their personal development and a chance to solve challenges and issues before formal lessons start at 9.00am. On their first day, Year 7 students should report to the Tennis courts - as they did for their induction day, where they will be met by their form tutors. Please note that their is significant traffic at the leisure centre entrance at these times so we encourage you to



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find a safe dropping point away from the school rather than seeking to enter the leisure centre car park.

## **End of Day Arrangements**

The school day will end at the normal time of **3.00pm** with buses departing shortly after this time. Note that there will be no after school activities on this first day. Again, traffic at the leisure centre entrance is high at this time so we do recommend finding a suitable safe collection point slightly away from the school site to avoid the worst of the congestion.

## Structure of the School Day

Through last term we conducted a consultation into the arrangements of our school day. Whilst we are not changing the timings of the school day, we have elected to trial an approach in which all lessons are taught in double periods so that students will have three 'sessions' each day, rather than six individual lessons. We will be evaluating with students, staff and parents the impact of this approach, but it has been exceptionally successful in a wide range of schools and will help students deepen their knowledge in their lessons.

#### **School Uniform**

I hope you have been able to source the school uniform fully for the start of this term - we always start the year with a focus on getting this right and ensuring that we start the year as we mean to go on. Please do let us know if you have had any difficulties sourcing particular items - we do have a stock of uniform on site (including schools) that students can borrow on a daily basis if they are struggling to secure items. We also have 'pre-loved' uniform items and we will let parents know times when we will 'open' this shop each term. For further guidance please do refer to the comprehensive uniform guide on the school website here.

## iPads for Learning

Your child will be provided with an iPad for use within and outside of school. Each year we present these to our Year 7 students after the start of the term once they have settled into the rhythm of school life. We will contact you early in the term to let you know exactly when these will be available and with details about our acceptable use policy and other important information.

#### Contacting the school

During the school day you may need to get messages through to your child - please seek to do this via the school, rather than by messaging or calling them via their mobile phone: inevitably this causes a challenge for students who may well have their





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mobile phone confiscated if found using it! Please do contact the school via phone or email so that we can support you and them in resolving any issue.

On behalf of the entire Cheslyn Hay community, I would like to extend my warmest welcome once again and we look forward to seeing you on Tuesday

Yours sincerely

- Mull

Tom Macdonald Headteacher