



Guildford County School

SPECIALIST MUSIC COLLEGE

Headteacher: Steve Smith, MA, BSc (Hons), NPQH

Farnham Road, Guildford, Surrey, GU2 4LU Tel. 01483 504 089

info@guildfordcounty.co.uk www.guildfordcounty.co.uk



@guildfordcountyschool

16th July 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

We wanted to write to you before the end of this academic year to give you some details of arrangements for the start of next term.

Year 7s start at 8.35am on Thursday 2nd September. Staff will be on hand to show them to the Main Hall, where they will sit with their new House tutor groups.

At first, as they settle into school life, Year 7 will have one base, with their tutors and teachers collecting them from there at the start of every lesson and returning them there afterwards. Within a few days, their confidence has usually grown to the point where they no longer need this reassurance, and we give them the freedom to navigate the school and their timetable on their own. We'll judge when they are ready.

At the end of each day, until September 22nd, we will bring them back to the Main Hall for a short assembly, as we explain various aspects of school life that will help them settle. Their day will initially end at 3.40pm. From September 23rd onwards, they will leave with the rest of the school at 3.30pm.

Over the last few weeks and months, you have been given a lot of information about starting with us. To simplify things, here are four key reminders:

1. Talk positively about starting with us and the new relationships they will form.

We continue to recommend "Go Big: The Secondary School Survival Guide" by Matthew Burton. It's an excellent book to share with your child as you help them think about life at County.

2. Ensure their uniform is right.

County students wear their uniform correctly, smartly, and with pride, knowing that in this humble act they demonstrate respect for each other, recognising that they share a common purpose of learning.

Hopefully you have your appointments with Stevensons booked. An up-to-date list of our uniform and details can be found here: <https://www.guildfordcounty.co.uk/613/uniform>

3. Ensure they have the right equipment.

In order to make the most of school, students must be equipped properly. Please ensure they have the right stationery. Remember that transparent pencil cases are required for formal exams, and that cheap, easily-replaceable stationery is best. If students have over-elaborate stationery, it tends to distract them and others.

GIVE • CREATE • SUCCEED



PROUD TO BE A
MUSIC MARK
SCHOOL



Choral Patron: Howard Goodall CBE Patron: Julian Lloyd Webber FRCM Boys Choir Patron: Roger Black MBE

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More details can be found in our parent handbook, here:
<https://www.guildfordcounty.co.uk/639/transition-from-primary-school>

4. Ensure they are not reliant on their mobile phones.

Following feedback from families, we are changing our mobile phone policy from September 2nd for Years 7-11. Students are allowed to bring phones to school, but any internet-enabled device must be off and out of sight whenever students are at school. This includes break and lunchtimes. At the discretion of a teacher, mobile phones may sometimes be used to support learning. Where phones are out without the permission of a teacher as linked to learning activities, they will be confiscated and parents and carers will need to collect them from the school office.

May I take this opportunity to wish you all a relaxing time with your family and friends over the summer break. We are looking forward to seeing many of you at our summer school, and I look forward to welcoming you to County on **Thursday 2nd September**, refreshed and ready for the new year ahead.

Yours sincerely

Jack Houghton
Assistant Head: Progress & Support: Years 7-11