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Primary 7 Transition Update letter – March 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope this letter finds you and your family well.

The transition from Primary to Secondary school is one of the most significant transitions in a young person's education. In this letter I would like to take this opportunity to share with you some of the work that is happening with all of our Cluster Primary Schools to make sure that the transition to Hawick High School for your child is as smooth as possible.

We have been liaising with our primary colleagues and have already started to gather information to ensure that we are meeting the needs of all the young people when they make the transition to Hawick High School.

So far we have focused on the following:

- Meetings with Primary 7 teachers to discuss each individual student
- We have started to have enhanced transition meetings for any young person who may require extra support.
- Support for Learning Staff at Hawick High School are liaising with their primary colleagues to identify the most appropriate supports for the young people
- Pastoral Staff will be visiting all of our feeder primary schools throughout May to meet and work with the young people. This will also give them the chance to ask any questions they have about Hawick High School.

Pastoral and Support for Learning Staff Visits

Pastoral staff and current pupils will meet with P7 classes to share experiences about Hawick High School. These will be throughout May and June.

Enhanced Transition and Step Up Group

Some young people can find the transition to high school challenging for a number of reasons. We have had discussions with P7 teachers and they have highlighted to us the young people who they feel would benefit from some additional support. If your child has been referred for **Enhanced Transition visits** or to our **Step Up group** we will contact you directly.

S1 Classes

We use all of the information that we gather from P7 teachers to create our S1 classes. Your child will be in a house group (**Douglas, Scott** and **Turnbull**). Within this house they will have a House Head, a Pastoral Principal Teacher and a Tutor teacher who takes the class for registration in the morning. Each tutor group has around 28 pupils and each practical set (for all practical classes) has no more than 20 pupils. If you have any concerns or requests prior to classes being made, please speak to your child's P7 Teacher.

Hawick High School Visit Days and Open Evening

Your child will have the opportunity to visit Hawick High School for two full days. These will be **Wednesday 21st June and Thursday 22nd June**. They will have their timetable prior to these visit days and will have had the chance to see their classes. They will be supported by S6 Buddies and school staff. We are also holding a **P7 Open Evening on Monday 19th June from 17:30-19:00**. This will be at Hawick High School and will give you the opportunity to tour the school and see our departments working.

We will continue to communicate with primary colleagues over the coming months to ensure that we have any relevant up to date information. In the meantime if you have any questions at all please email us HHSTransition@scotborders.gov.uk and the most appropriate person will reply.

Yours sincerely
Stewart Walker
Principal Teacher Pastoral