

Letter to parents of year 4.

Dear parent/carer.

I hope you are well. It does not seem possible that your child is going to end their time at their first school soon and then join us in the Seaton Valley Federation in September. Normally we would be about to begin the transition process that enables the smooth transition from first to middle school.

Sadly this is not in any way a normal year and sadly we are not able to offer you the transition experience that we know works and we also know makes your children feel far more comfortable about the whole process. This is due to the extension of the Covid restrictions that were announced last Monday.

However myself and the staff at the Seaton Valley Federation along with the Heads of the First Schools want the year 4 pupils to have some form of meaningful transition. I am therefore writing to let you know that your child will have the opportunity to spend a day at the middle school that they will be joining. Due to the different set up and layouts of the 2 middle schools the days will not be exactly the same. What will be the same is that each pupil will spend time in the middle school, get to experience middle school life and meet middle school staff.

Alongside this we will also put on our website information from each middle school about transition and what will happen in September. We will also share with you an email address for the head of year 5 for each middle school that you can use to send any questions to. The Head of year 5 will then respond to your question. We will also put on the website some commonly asked questions so that you can see if your question is already there along with its answer.

In the next few days we will plan the transition days and ensure all the information is on the website. When this is all done Mrs McSparron and Mr Souter will write to you with the details of the transition days and also the email address for the head of year 5.

I am sorry that we can not provide our normal transition events but I hope you understand why this is the case. If I can offer one bit of hope to those of you who are struggling with the fact your child is moving onto middle school. We work very closely with your child's first school to make sure the transition is as good as it can be. Also the children cope very well with transitions they will adapt and overcome. It is us the adults who have the biggest worries! So please try not to worry too much. This is the start of the next exciting chapter of your child's education. We will be building on the excellent work that their first school has done.

I look forward to meeting your children on the transfer days.

Yours