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Dear parent / carer

I write to you following the terrific news that your son/daughter will be joining us in Year 7 in September. On behalf of all the staff of Hessle High School and Sixth Form College, I am delighted that you have chosen to place your trust in us as your child's Secondary School. Over the coming months, we will keep in regular contact with you, your child and their primary school. The aim of this communication will be to ensure that the very best transition to secondary school can be achieved.

Let me set out some of the things that we will be doing.

Firstly, we will contact your child's primary school. We already have excellent links with our feeder schools but we hope to strengthen these even more in the coming weeks as Miss Pinkney, our Transition Co-ordinator, contacts the schools to find out more about the children in Year 6 that are joining us.

Don't worry if your child is one of only a handful of pupils coming to Hessle from their current school, or even if they are the only one! This is more common than you think, and we make extra special effort to get to know those pupils so that they can make the best possible transition to their new school and to help them to get to know more children as quickly as possible.

Secondly, we will start to communicate with you and your child. During the Spring and early Summer, we will be sending out regular e-cards. Each of these - there are twelve - explains a particular aspect of life at Hessle High School; they will introduce key staff, explain our curriculum and give you practical information about uniform, school lunches and transport. Throughout all this time, we are available - should you need us - to answer any questions that you may have.

In order for our communications to reach you, it is imperative that we have your up-to-date contact details. Please keep us informed of any changes to your email address or telephone numbers by contacting us at <u>office@hessleacademy.com</u>, also follow us on Twitter @Hesslehigh for news updates. In early May, we shall write to you and ask you to activate your account on our School Management System, Arbor. You will then be able to input your details, and those of your emergency contacts, into the system directly.

Finally, transition week comes in July and sees all our new Year 7 students spending three whole days at Hessle High School (Wednesday 10 July to Friday 12 July), getting to know their new tutors, finding their way around and meeting their new classmates. The children always tell us that this is a fantastic few days and sends them into the summer holiday relaxed and excited about the year to come.

I know that the next six months or so will see lots of excitement and trepidation in your household. I have a child in a local secondary school, so I fully understand the rare mix of emotions that are caused by this significant period in a child's life. As your child's next Headteacher, it is my job, and that of my staff, to make the transition as smooth as possible to ensure a positive start in September.

Once again, thank you for your faith in our school and, if this is the first child that you have entrusted to us, a very warm welcome to the Hessle High School community.

I look forward to meeting you in person.

Kind regards

Mr V Groak Headteacher