

# NETHER STOWE SCHOOL

## Year 7 Student / Parent Information Booklet 2020-2021



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### Key Dates for 2020

Autumn Term commences	02/09/20	
Half Term	26/10/20—30/10/20	
Christmas Holiday	21/12/20—01/01/21	
INSET/ TRAINING DAYS	01/09/20	12/02/21
	23/10/20	15/03/21
	30/11/20	30/04/21
	04/01/21	05/07/21

*May be subject to alteration*

## Welcome from Glyn Langston-Jones Headteacher



It gives me great pleasure and pride to introduce myself as the Headteacher of Nether Stowe School and to welcome you to our school. Congratulations on gaining your place!

We are a flourishing school proud of our inclusive ethos and warm welcome. Most importantly, we are a strong, supportive, community where every pupil is individually cared for and valued. Furthermore, we are extremely proud to be a member of the Arthur Terry Learning Partnership, one of the best regarded Multi-Academy Trusts in the West Midlands. The partnership shares our commitment to excellence in teaching and learning and putting children at the core of everything we do.

At the heart of the vision and values of the school is the belief that every young person has the right to be a powerful learner and that education changes lives and transforms communities. We have a highly ambitious and aspirational focus on academic excellence, enabling every pupil to succeed and thrive. We develop and nurture individual talent to create kind, ambitious, self-confident, resourceful and resilient young people who are proud to contribute to their school and local community and who are ready to face the challenges of the modern world.

Traditional values of strong discipline, good behaviour and respect are also core to our ethos: we have high standards and we challenge, support and inspire everyone to be the absolute best they can be. Nether Stowe is a school you can be truly proud of!

The change from Primary School to Secondary can often seem like a daunting prospect. It shouldn't be. At Nether Stowe we have a hard working, dedicated and determined team of staff who are thoroughly devoted to making the transition as easy and as enjoyable as possible.

This is an exciting new step for your son or daughter and an exciting time to be joining the school. Each pupil begins a journey in Year 7 that leads to their ultimate success in Year 11 and Year 13. We take our responsibility for this journey – and your trust in us – very seriously.

That's why we are determined to provide a fantastic, high-quality, learning environment; great teaching; amazing experiences and outstanding opportunities for our students: both inside and outside the classroom. As a result, we expect the very best from everyone.

I look forward to meeting with you all and working closely together over the coming years!

1.

## Welcome from last year's Year 7 students

When I first joined Nether Stowe I had nerves all through my body and I didn't find many friends at the start of Year 7 and then I met the friends I have now. I soon realised that Pastoral would sort anything and talk with me so that's now like my second home. Also all the teachers are really nice.

**Will Doody**

When I first started Year 7 I was scared and felt a bit sick because it was a new place for me. I was worried if I would make new friends. Then, throughout the first couple of weeks I made new friends and I was happy and I am still. I now know that I can tell the teachers anything and I can ask them anything.

**Evie Pilsbury**



When I first joined Nether Stowe, I was quite worried I would make no friends. But after the first few days I made a lot of friends and I'm still close to them now. I was also worried that the lessons would be too hard and the teachers wouldn't help me. But whenever I struggle, the teachers are kind and help me with the work.

**Hanya Johnson-Rose**

2.

When I first started Nether Stowe I was a little bit apprehensive as I didn't really know what to expect. But as the days went by I felt a lot more at ease. I now enjoy coming to school as it's a fun place. **Jamie Atkins**



When I first started Year 7 I was very worried but excited. Not many of my best friends from primary school were going to Nether Stowe so I was quite upset. Firstly in Year 7 I met my Form Tutor and the other Year 7s in my form. I made friends with them, Now in Year 7 I feel very welcome and I love school. The main thing that I enjoy now is meeting up with my friends at break and lunch time.

**Demi Reid**



When I first started Nether Stowe I was really nervous. I didn't know what to expect but all staff and teachers are really welcoming and friendly. On my first day I was worried about getting lost but all staff and other students always help.

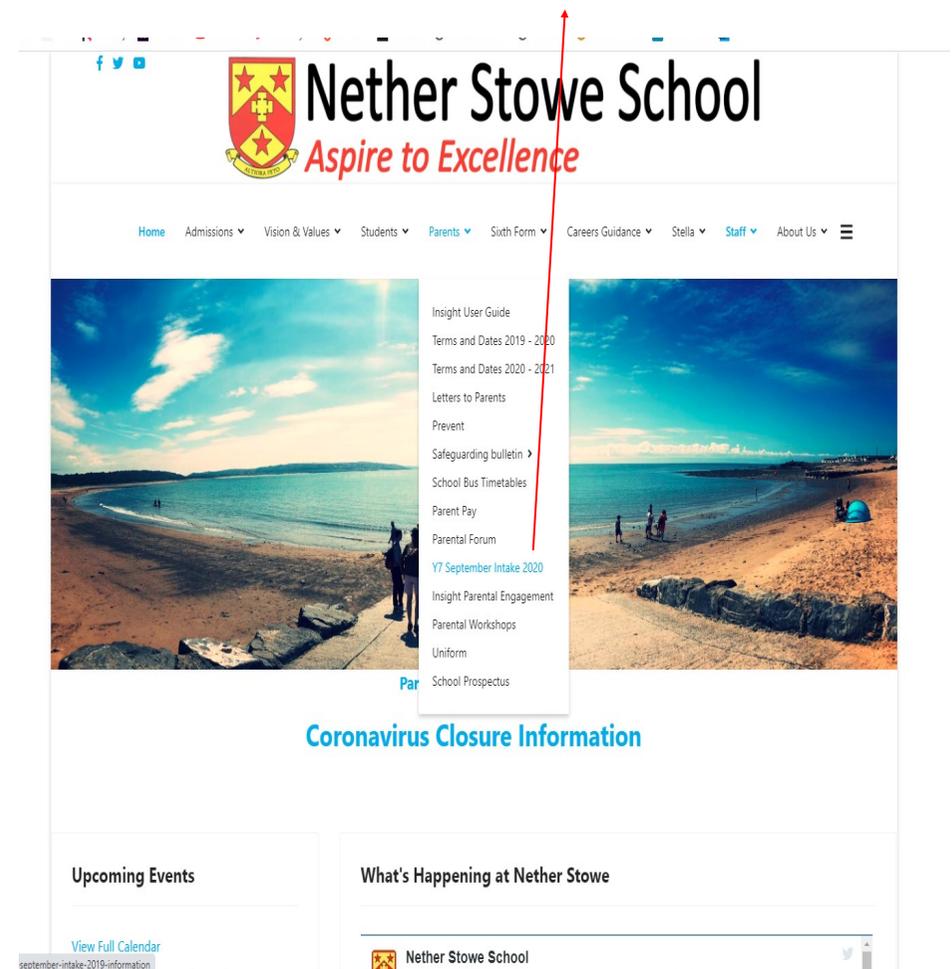
**Imogen Estaugh**

## Induction Days

It is with great sadness that we will not be able to meet you or your parents, as part of our usual Induction process.

We have put together on our website, as much of the information as possible, you would normally receive .

This can all be found under the "Parent" tab :



## Questions

If you or your parents have any questions, once you have looked at all the information and presentations, please send an email to the following address:

[Year6Questions@netherstowe.com](mailto:Year6Questions@netherstowe.com)

This will not generate a direct response, but queries will be collated into a FAQ before the end of term. If needed, (due to the specific nature of your query) your email will be forwarded to the relevant member of staff for their attention.

## Absence / Truancy Call

Nether Stowe operates an automatic communication system that will contact you directly if your child is marked absent at registration. This will ensure that the reason for the absence is known as soon as possible and will alert you if your child is not in school when they should be.

A phone call should be made to the school if your child is away or late to registration. Alternatively, contact can be made to [attendance@netherstowe.com](mailto:attendance@netherstowe.com). If there is no reason for the absence the above system will be operated.

Your child will be automatically included on the system.

By introducing this service, our school is able to reassure you that we are meeting the Government's recommendations in contacting you on the first day of your child's absence. It will also provide an early warning system if your child should go missing from school. As always your child's safety is paramount.

Our Attendance Office, Mrs Goodman, as well as members of the Pastoral Team, are always happy to discuss concerns around attendance and support in getting your child to school.

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## Top 10 Worries about secondary school

1. **Not making friends.** You will spend the first day of term just with Year 7 and there will be lots of fun activities that your tutor will organise to help you to get to know other people.
2. **Getting lost.** We expect you to get lost in the first few weeks so don't worry. There are always students and members of staff on the corridors to help. You will also get a tour of the school with your Form Tutor on your first day. Nether Stowe is quite a small site, so you will quickly get to know your way around.
3. **Home Learning.** You will be introduced to your Knowledge Organisers, which will be used to support Home Learning. There is also a Study Club at lunchtime and after school where you can do your home learning and get help if you need it.
4. **Not being able to do the work.** Check you understand the work in the lesson, use your Knowledge Organiser and if you are not sure ask your teacher - that's what they are there for. You can always go to Study Club too!
5. **Getting to school on time.** If you have a long walk, bus or train journey then you could practise your journey over the summer holidays with your parents or a friend. You could also arrange to meet up with friends and come together.
6. **Not having the right books or equipment.** Use your timetable to help you get organised and make sure you have all the right equipment in your school bag. The best time to do this is the night before school—then you won't have to rush in the morning and forget something!
7. **Getting into trouble.** If you listen and follow instructions then there is no reason to get into trouble. Sometimes we make mistakes and that can't be helped—your teachers make mistakes too!
8. **Not getting on with the teachers.** The teachers at Nether Stowe are really friendly and because it's a small school they will get to know you really quickly even if they don't teach you. Some of your teachers you may only see once or twice a week

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9. **Not knowing what to do if there's a problem.** If you have any problems you can talk to your Form Tutor, a Student from the Senior Team or any member of staff you feel comfortable talking to. You can also come to the Pastoral Office before or after school at break time or lunch time—there is always someone there who will listen. We will show you where key staff are in September.
10. **Being Bullied.** If you feel you are being bullied then you should let someone know straight away. Don't let it carry on—it will be dealt with straight away. Again you can talk to your Form Tutor, a Student from the Senior Team or any member of staff you feel comfortable talking to. You can also come to the Pastoral Office at any time.

**Don't worry... Help is always at hand!**

At Nether Stowe we have a strong Pastoral Team who are always there to help you – no matter what the problem is.

- Your Tutor - who you will see every morning
- Your College Head:
  - Mr Dolman (Beacon College)
  - Mr Cunningham (Wall College)
  - Mr Novis (Trent College)
  - Mr Sault (Chase College)



**Mr Dolman**  
Beacon College



**Mr Cunningham**  
Wall College



**Mr Novis**  
Trent College



**Mr Sault**  
Chase College

- Miss Sullivan—who oversees the Pastoral Team
- There will also be your Pastoral Head who will help you settle in:
  - Mrs Perks (Beacon College)
  - Mrs Appleton (Wall College)
  - Mrs Blackwell (Trent College)
  - Mrs Harrison (Chase College)



**Mrs G Perks**  
Beacon College



**Mrs S Appleton**  
Wall College



**Mrs C Blackwell**  
Trent College



**Mrs J Harrison**  
Chase College

We also have a Senior Student Team who are ready to help you out so there is nothing to worry about.



Everyone wants you to settle in quickly and make lots of new friends. We want you to be the best you can be and if anything gets in the way of that we can help. You only have to ask.

If you have a problem you simply go to the Pastoral office or find a Buddy and let them know what the problem is and it will be sorted out quickly.

## What equipment will I need?



A school bag will be really important. Make sure it is big enough to carry all the books you need for the day's lessons as well as your pencil case and water bottle.

It is a good idea to have a bag for your P.E. kit too.

You will need pens, pencils and a ruler for nearly every lesson. You would also find coloured crayons and highlighters useful. It would be a good idea to keep all these safe in a pencil case.

You must have as a minimum:

2 Black Pens	Eraser and 15cm Ruler
Green Pen	Compass & Protractor
Pencil and Pencil	Scientific Calculator
Sharpener	Water Bottle



If you would like to hire a locker you will be able to do so. This means you can keep your P.E. kit safe until you need it, or put some of your books or your outside coat in there instead of carrying them around for the whole day. Complete the form on Insight and a locker will be ready for you in September.

### School Reward Shop:

You will receive Credits for all your hard work and effort in school and extra-curricular activities.

You can spend these in the Reward Shop to buy: equipment, cake or drink vouchers, footballs, water bottles.



## Uniform & P.E. Kit

At Nether Stowe, your uniform is an important part of our identity and college. We expect all students to wear their uniform with pride.

### Our uniform is:

- Black blazer with school badge to be worn at all times
- White shirt with collar which buttons to the neck
- Black skirt must be knee length and not be of a tight-fitting style or material; OR black trousers must be plain, formal and of an office style with no visible zips
- Black V-neck knitted sweater (optional) – plain and long sleeved
- School College tie – clip on type which must always be worn
- Dark socks or plain tights
- Shoes (boys and girls) - plain black and leather style in appearance, all shoes must have a heel (less than 2.5cm)
- Coat (not a hooded top) which should be plain and dark

### For P.E. you will need:

- Plain black shorts /skort with school badge
- Plain white short-sleeved polo shirt with school badge
- White sports socks
- Football boots and shin pads (for football and rugby lessons)
- Swimsuit/swim shorts towel and swimming hat
- Trainers (not pumps/Converse/Vans/Hi tops)

### Expectations regarding school uniform will be strictly enforced

#### For optional items of PE kit please refer to attached uniform list

Things to remember:

- We do not wear training shoes in school – only for P.E.
- Trousers must be school trousers – not fashion trousers that look like leggings or jeans
- Skirts must be knee length and not be of a tight fitting style or material
- No nail varnish or false nails
- No extreme haircuts or styles (boys must be grade 2 or longer)

**All of the school uniform & P.E. kit is available from Uniforms Plus, Lichfield and Blueprint Designs, Rugeley**

## What will my day be like?

The Nether Stowe day starts at 8:40 when the bell will ring and you will go to your form room for registration with your form tutor. This will last for 20 minutes.

Each morning you will do different things, which include:

- An assembly each week.
- A discussion about our 'Big Question'.
- Literacy and comprehension focus
- Current Affairs
- Student Voice— where you will have the opportunity to talk about what is going well in school and things you would like to improve.

You will have a copy of your timetable so that you will always know what lesson you have and where it is.

8:45—9:05	AM Registration
9:05—10:05	Lesson 1
10:05—11:05	Lesson 2
11:05—11:20	Break Time—opportunity to go outside, go to the canteen to buy a drink or snack, go to the toilet, fill up your water bottle.
11:20—12:20	Lesson 3
12:20—12:50	Lunch Time—opportunity to go outside, go to the toilet, fill up your water bottle, get involved in college competitions or lunch time clubs
12:50—1:00	PM Registration
1:00—2:00	Lesson 4
2:00—3:00	Lesson 5

## Music at Nether Stowe



- \* Trumpet
- \* Piano
- \* Clarinet
- \* Keyboard
- \* Flute
- \* Violin/Viola
- \* Guitar
- \* Trombone
- \* Drums
- \* Cello
- \* Saxophone
- \* Singing

Do you play a musical instrument?

Would you like to learn to play one?

At Nether Stowe every student has the opportunity to learn a musical instrument or join the choir.

Instrumental lessons are provided by the school.

Please see the leaflet explaining all about Music tuition and how to apply.

If you would like lessons please complete the form on Insight.

***It is our intention to continue with Music tuition even if the current social distancing rules still apply. The peripatetic teachers are planning how this will be delivered safely and effectively. More details will be available in September.***

## Other Clubs

There are lots of clubs and groups to join at Nether Stowe. Some take place at lunch time and some happen after school. Have a think about what you would like to do.....

- Duke of Edinburgh Award
- ACASTOWE: school choir
- Very Little Big Band
- Guitar Club
- Soul Band
- Dance
- 'Parlez Plus Fort': Year 11 French
- Year 10 French Speaking Practice
- French Boulogne visit (Y7)
- Maths: Imperial College, London
- Lichfield Mysteries
- Maths Challenge
- Maths STEM: Lake District
- Visit to the Houses of Parliament
- Sutton Trust University Residential
- GCSE PE and A Level PE booster sessions
- GCSE Photography and Art boosters sessions
- Birmingham University Maths lectures
- Stafford College Art and Design workshops
- Tate Modern and Tate Britain visits
- Rounders
- Sri Lanka visit
- GCSE Astronomy
- History revision
- Weekly RE revision
- Science Big Bang
- Textiles club
- Trampolining
- Netball
- Handball
- Fitness
- Basketball
- Table Tennis
- Athletics
- Tennis
- Cricket
- Skiing
- School Shows
- Author Visits

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## The Y6-7 Transition Project

The Y6-7 Transition Project has been put together by teachers from your primary and future secondary schools. It will be used when you start at Nether Stowe in year 7 as a way of you introducing yourself to your Form Tutor. The Y6-7 Transition Project is all about you and your future hopes and dreams. It will help your Form Tutor and fellow class members to get to know you when you begin in September.

Over the next few weeks, you will be putting together an A4 sheet all about yourself. Think carefully about the space you have and the information you will include. You may wish to consider things like:

- \*You and your family
- \*Personal fact file: favourite music, film, story, animal
- \*Your favourite primary school moment, make it clear which primary school you went to
- \*Your favourite subjects
- \*Your hobbies
- \*Your hidden talents
- \*What are you most proud of
- \*Favourite place to visit
- \*What would you like to achieve at Nether Stowe

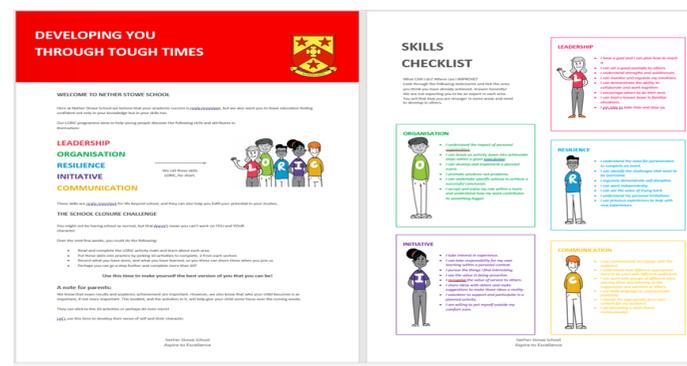
Your tutor is really looking forward to what you have to say about yourself!

## ATLP LORIC Programme

As part of the ATLP (Arthur Terry Learning Partnership), we have been asked to share the LORIC programme. The booklet and the activities in it will help encourage you to discover new skills and attributes, as well as further enhance those you already have.

**LORIC** stands for: Leadership, Organisation, Resilience, Initiative and Communication.

Look out for it on the website with all other Transition information:



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