

Dove Valley Way. Wombwell, Barnsley S73 8FE Tel: 01226 272000

www.astreanetherwood.org Principal: Mr Jonny Mitchell

March 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

Welcome to Netherwood Academy!

Congratulations! We are delighted to confirm that [Child's Name] has been allocated a place at Netherwood Academy for the academic year beginning September 2025. On behalf of our entire school community, I would like to warmly welcome you and your family to Netherwood Academy. We are thrilled to have the opportunity to support your child on their educational journey, and we look forward to working in partnership with you.

#### **About Netherwood Academy**

At Netherwood Academy, our mission is to ensure that every scholar learns, thrives, and leads a successful life. Our values - Studentship, Curiosity, Tenacity, Responsibility, and Respect - are at the heart of everything we do. We have high expectations and are unapologetically ambitious for every scholar, aiming to provide an inclusive, aspirational, and academic education. Whether students are climbing the mountain to university or pursuing other aspirational pathways, we are committed to equipping them with the knowledge and confidence to excel.

As Principal, I am incredibly proud of the warm and vibrant culture we foster here at Netherwood Academy. Our dedicated staff work tirelessly to create an environment where students feel supported and challenged to reach their full potential. Together, we aim to ensure that your child not only achieves academic success but also grows as a confident, compassionate, and responsible individual.

#### **Next Steps**

To help you and [Child's Name] prepare for the transition to secondary school, we invite you to attend our **Principal's Welcome Event** on **27**<sup>th</sup> **March. Sessions at 4.00pm, 4.30pm, 5.00pm, 5.30pm and 6.00pm** at Netherwood Academy. This event is a fantastic opportunity to:

- Meet key staff members, including myself, the Head of Year 7, and our Deputy SENCo.
- Receive our Family Handbook, which outlines key policies, uniform requirements, and other essential transition information.
- Learn about our school culture, expectations, and the support we offer during this exciting transition.
- 1-1 meeting with a member of staff to discuss the transition process and review our commitment to excellence agreement
- Ask any questions you may have about the next steps in your child's journey with us.

Families should be clear that by accepting a place they are agreeing to support the school. Attendance at this session is therefore mandatory and will be robustly monitored to ensure full parental engagement. We believe this event is pivotal in establishing a strong partnership

between the school and families. It ensures parents are fully informed and students are prepared, engaged, and committed, ready to transition to secondary school.

Please confirm your attendance by completing the following online form <a href="here">here</a> at your convenience. You will be able to select and book a date and time slot.

# **Important Information**

In the coming weeks, you will receive additional materials, including:

- Details about transition events and induction days designed to help your child settle into life at Netherwood Academy.
- Links to resources on our website, such as virtual tours, welcome videos, and FAQs, which you can access at <a href="Netherwood Website Transition">Netherwood Website Transition</a>
- We kindly ask you to complete and return the information forms which we will send to you shortly by Friday 25th April to confirm your child's place and provide us with important information for their transition.

# **Support and Contact Information**

We understand that starting secondary school is an exciting yet significant step, and we are here to support you every step of the way. Should you have any questions or specific needs, please do not hesitate to contact:

- Senior Vice Principal (Transition Lead) Mrs Kirsty Hubbert kirsty.hubbert@astreanetherwood.org
- Head of Year 7 (Year 7 Progress Leader) Mr Chris Snelling christopher.snelling@astreanetherwood.org
- Deputy SENDCo Ms Chantelle Selby: <a href="mailto:chantelle.selby@astreanetherwood.org">chantelle.selby@astreanetherwood.org</a>
  and SEND admin Mrs Emma Currie emma.currie@astreanetherwood.org

## A Final Note of Encouragement

We are committed to ensuring that [Child's Name]'s transition to Netherwood Academy is as smooth and enjoyable as possible. We value the partnership between home and school and look forward to working closely with you to support your child's growth and success. Together, we can make this next chapter a rewarding and inspiring experience.

Once again, congratulations on joining the Netherwood Academy family. We can't wait to welcome you and [Child's Name] to our community and to see them thrive in the years ahead.

Warm regards,

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Jonny Mitchell

**Principal** 

Netherwood Academy

Kirsty Hubbert

**Vice Principal responsible for Transition** 

Netherwood Academy

Kirsty.hubbert@astreanetherwood.org