

## OTHER WAYS WE ARE SUPPORTING THE PRIMARY TO SECONDARY MOVE

### Sharing information

The process of sharing information between primary and secondary is already well underway. Staff from the Primaries and Duke's are communicating to ensure that your child's needs are understood by their new teachers. Information is shared sensitively and confidentially about your child's academic and social and emotional needs to enable the right support to be put into place before they start in September.

### Additional Support

Children with additional needs or those who may find the transition particularly difficult will be supported with additional transition sessions at their own primary school, led by specialist staff from Duke's.

### Curriculum Continuity

Staff from Duke's will be visiting primary schools this term to get to know the children and the ways in which they are used to working. This will help to maintain continuity in the curriculum and learning.

### Chromebooks

Duke's offers a fantastic Chromebook scheme which gives all students the chance to purchase a Chrome book on a 'pay monthly' basis. The costs are subsidised and the chromebooks are set up with all the software needed for use in school and at home. Look out for further information coming to you soon!

### CAT4 assessments

This half term staff from Duke's will work with your child's Y6 teacher to put them into learning groups ready for September. All children will complete an online CAT4 assessment which will be done in the classroom or ICT suite at their primary school.

These tests are not something children can prepare for, or need to worry about, but help us to understand how they think rather than what they know. By doing this work before they come to Duke's we will be able to group them for learning, in classes that suit them best, before they start. The Year 6 teachers will share their knowledge and help us make sure they are in a class where they feel happy and ready to learn. We are hoping this will lead to a smooth start to year 7 for everyone.

### We're here for you

The Director of Primary to Secondary Transition here at Duke's is Katie Black, she is working closely with your child's primary school and the team at Duke's to oversee the transition process. We know that this is a big step for both parents and children and you may have some questions.

Hopefully, lots of these can be answered during the transition days or when Duke's staff come to primary schools to meet you. If you would like to talk to someone about transition you can speak to your child's teacher or Headteacher, or you can email Katie [Katie.Black@dukes.ncea.org.uk](mailto:Katie.Black@dukes.ncea.org.uk) or call her on 01670 816111 ext 330.



# MOVING TO DUKE'S 2024



Dear Families,  
 We are really excited to welcome you and your child to Duke's Secondary School. This is the next step in your child's education journey and we are hoping to make the transition between primary and secondary school a smooth and successful one for all.

**Getting to know you, getting to know us**  
 There are a number of opportunities during this transition period for us all to get to know each other better and for the children to become more familiar with their new school environment.

**Transition Assemblies**  
 To help the children to understand the process of transition and what will happen on their transition day, Duke's staff will come to primary schools to talk to the children before their visits. There will also be the opportunity to speak to some current year 7s and find out more about life at Duke's. We hope this will help to ease any anxieties the children may have and allow them to feel excited about what lies ahead.

**Catch up with a cuppa**  
 Mr Atkinson and some of the Duke's team will be coming to primary schools to meet families and answer any questions you or your children may have. Look out for the date we'll be at your school and come along for an informal catch up, a cuppa and cake!

**SEND and Transition Drop-in Day**  
 If your child has additional needs and you would like to discuss their support at Duke's, or if you have any questions or concerns about your child's transition to Duke's, Jill Collins our SENCO and Katie Black, our Director of Transition, will be available to meet you on Thursday 27th June @ Duke's from 8.30 till 4 - please pop along during these times.

**Transition days**  
 Every child will have the opportunity to spend a whole day at Duke's with their class. During the day, they will see the school building, meet staff and children and take part in some lessons designed especially for them. They will have lunch in the dining hall. The children will also have the opportunity to ask any questions they may have.  
 On Friday 5th July all our new year 7s will come together to spend time in their tutor groups and doing some fun team building activities.



## Year 6 Transition Days

- Monday 1st July - Bishops Primary
- Tuesday 2nd July - Grace Darling Primary and Morpeth Road Primary
- Wednesday 3rd July - Central Primary, Ellington Primary and Linton Primary
- Thursday 4th July - Thomas Bewick Primary, James Knott Primary and William Leech Primary
- The day will begin at 9.15am and end at 2.30pm.

We ask that children arrive on time for a 9.15am start. If your child is ill and unable to attend please notify us as soon as possible on 01670 816111.

## Friday 5th July - All students - 9.15am - 12pm

### Lunch

Lunch will be provided by Duke's, there will be a few hot options to choose from - and there's always pasta (with or without sauces) and sandwiches. It would be great if all children had the school dinner - to see the different options and experience ordering - but they are welcome to bring a packed lunch if they prefer.

### What to bring

Children will need to bring their own water bottles which can be filled throughout the day. They may also want to bring a snack for break time.  
 Children should wear their primary school uniform when they come for the full day visit and their school PE kit when they come for the morning on Friday 5th July.

## School

### Bishop's

Escorted as group to and from Duke's by primary staff (normal school hours)

### William Leech

Minibus to and from Duke's with primary staff (normal school hours))

### James Knott

Escorted as a group to and from Duke's by primary staff (normal school hours)

### Thomas Bewick

Escorted as group to and from Duke's by primary staff (normal school hours 8:40am - 3:30pm)

### Ellington

Parents to drop and collect from Duke's

### Morpeth Road

Parents to drop and collect from Duke's

### Linton

Parents to drop and collect from Duke's

### Central

Parents to drop and collect from Duke's

### Grace Darling

Coach to and from Duke's with primary staff (normal school hours)



## Travel arrangements