

June 2025

Dear Parent / Carer

I hope your child is looking forward to joining us in September and I look forward to having the opportunity to meet with you and your child over the next few weeks.

Joining a new school can be exciting but it can also make some children worry. We understand this and to support your child, we have set up a dedicated Year 6 section on our school website so that they can find out further information about Whickham School.

Please read through our **Parental handbook** with your child by scanning the QR code below or by visiting the Year 6 section on the Whickham School website. If you require a paper copy, please contact Mrs Sutton on 0191 4960026 extension 207.



<https://www.whickhamschool.org/year-6/welcome-year-6/>

The following information has been enclosed:

Class Charts login details - this app is used to give you live feedback about your child when they are at school as well as set homework and organise after school support.

Parent pay login details - this is our online payment service for cashless payments for dinner money, school trips, starter packs and other items you may need to pay for whilst at Whickham School.

Pupil starter packs - The starter pack contains an equipment pack, tie, apron (for Design and Technology lessons), scientific calculator and sketchbook. The cost of the pack is £23. Payments can be made on-line via ParentPay using the enclosed login details. ParentPay can be found on the school website: 'parents' > 'information'. Once you have logged in select the Starter Pack and follow the instructions to make the payment. The starter packs can be collected on Saturday 28th June in the main hall when you collect your purchased uniforms and PE kit.

Please take note of the following important dates for you and your child:

Year 6 Experience Days

Tuesday 1st July and Wednesday 2nd July 8.30am-3pm

Children must attend in their primary school uniform. Please ensure they bring a pen, their water bottle and their letter to the Head Teacher. There will be pupil guides on the day who will ensure they can find their way to the main hall on arrival to school. Children will then be placed into their tutor groups.

Lunch will be provided for children on both days.

Children are expected to make their own way to Whickham School on their transition days. If your child needs to travel to school by bus, they can use the scholars bus service, please visit the Whickham School website page:

<https://www.whickhamschool.org/parents-information/bus-timetables/> for further information.

Year 6 Parents Evening at Whickham School

Parents and Carers of Year 6 pupils should attend the school on Wednesday 2nd July to receive important information about transition. This will include an opportunity to meet your child's Pastoral Leader and tutor.

Parents and Carers will be allocated one of the following time slots which will be communicated separately closer to the event;

Group 1: 5.30pm - 6.30pm Group 2: 7:00pm - 8:00pm

Letter to the Headteacher

I would like to get to know your child a little better before they start with us in September. To do this, can you please ask your child to prepare a handwritten letter (where possible) on an A4 lined piece of paper and ensure they hand it in to their tutor when they visit our school for the Year 6 Experience day on **Tuesday 1st July**.

In their letter, please ask that they include the following:

- Their name and the primary school they attend
- Their interests
- Their favourite subjects
- What they are looking forward to at Whickham School
- What they would like to do when they are an adult
- If they are anxious or nervous about joining the school in September
- Anything else they think might be of interest to me

I am looking forward to reading the children's letters and getting to know them when they join the school in September.

Yours sincerely



Mr F Turnbull
Headteacher