



June 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope that you, your family and friends are well during these unprecedented times. We are delighted that your child will be attending Appleton Academy from September 2021. We are excited to welcome you to our school and look forward to getting to know you.

In our first letter to you, we explained that we were intending to run a Transition Day in school for our incoming Year 7 pupils, which would have taken place on Wednesday 7 July 2021. However, as a result of the announcement made by the Prime Minister about the continuation of restrictions, and the rise in the infection rates locally, we do not wish to put you, your child or our staff and students at increased risk of contracting the virus. Therefore, we will not now be able to welcome your child into school for a face-to-face Transition Day. We apologise for the disappointment this may cause.

However, we do want to provide some reassurance regarding the plans we do have for your child before they commence their secondary education with us in September. Although we will no longer be able to hold a transition event in school for your child to attend, we will be providing resources, information and opportunities to speak with staff via online and virtual platforms.

#### **Transition website**

We are working hard to ensure children joining us in September are prepared for their move to Secondary school. To this end, the Year 6 Transition section of our Appleton Academy website will go live on Wednesday 7 July 2021. The Transition section of our website will have all the information you and your child need to prepare for September. We will also use this to introduce you and your child to Appleton Academy and tell you more about our school, and we will deliver the presentation that we would normally have made to you during the Transition Parents' Evening, had this been able to go ahead.

#### **Documentation to be completed in advance of September**

We will use the Transition section of our website to provide important links for you to access, which will allow you to fill in the required documentation we need from you ahead of your child starting at Appleton Academy (we would usually ask you to complete this during the Transition Parents' Evening).

#### **Dedicated home learning site**

We have a dedicated home learning site for pupils, and we have put a range of information on there for your child, which will allow them to get to know more about Appleton, our staff and to get involved in some activities. Please visit: <https://appletonrevision.weebly.com/year-6-transition-2020.html>.

#### **Ask a question**

We realise that this is an unsettling time and so we have created an 'Ask a Question' portal where you can ask any questions you may have. Please be aware that we will answer your queries as soon as possible after you have raised them. You may not receive an immediate response, depending on when you ask the question or how busy the portal is, however, we will answer all queries.

Every family will be invited to an online or telephone pre-admission meeting with a member of the Senior Leadership Team at the Academy prior to the summer break. This will allow you to ask any specific questions that you may have. In order to facilitate this we would ask that you visit our transition page at: <https://appletonacademy.co.uk/secondary/transition/> and complete the form expressing an interest in an online meeting.



In addition, please be aware that professionals from Appleton Academy have been in touch with key contacts at your child's current Primary school to ensure we have a thorough understanding of each child's needs. This includes obtaining attainment and attendance data, personalised teaching strategies and information about any Special Educational Needs. We will use this information to tailor our transition plan to the needs of our new Year 7 cohort.

We hope that you will find our online resources and help useful and that this has relieved any of the concerns you may have had about Transition during the current restrictions. In the meantime, if you require any other support, please do not hesitate to contact us via email: [info@appletonacademy.co.uk](mailto:info@appletonacademy.co.uk). We don't yet have guidance from the government about expectations for the way in which schools will open in September. However, we expect that there will be a 'managed' start for all pupils, particularly those in Year 7. We will write to parents again as soon as we are able to outline definitive arrangements, but this might be during the summer break. We will also post any updates on our school website and via our social media channels – Facebook and twitter accounts – so would ask that you check these regularly too.

Thank you for your continued support during these challenging times. We are very much looking forward to meeting you and your child and welcoming them to our school in September.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Rachel Garlick'.

Mrs Garlick  
Head of Secondary