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Dear Parent/Carer,

P7 Transition Update

I am writing to update you on our progress and plans for P7 – S1 Transition. Moving from primary school to secondary school is an important time in a young person's life and it is vital that our p7 pupils and their parents/carers feel confident about the transition. Being in the midst of a global pandemic makes this even more important. Hopefully the information in this letter will reassure you that despite lockdown and the restrictions we are facing due to COVID19, we are continuing to follow our transition calendar and are on-track with all of our usual transition arrangements, even if it is not in the 'usual' way!

As you will hopefully know, we have set up a Microsoft Team for all the P7 pupils who are transitioning to Castle Douglas High School in August. This team will be where all the key transition information is shared with both you as parents/carers and your child. To date, the following information has been shared on the team:

- **P7 Presentation for Parents/Carers** – this information evening would normally have been held in CDHS before Christmas. It gives parents/carers information about the transition process and how we gather information about your child to ensure there is a smooth, supported transition between primary and secondary.
- **Information leaflet for Parents/Carers** – this goes along with the above presentation and gives contact details for key staff at CDHS.
- **P7 Presentation for Pupils** – this would normally have been delivered to pupils during our January primary visits. It gives pupils information about the pupil support team and how the school runs on a day-to-day basis.
- **Movin' On Up Booklet** – this is an information booklet for pupils that goes along with the presentation.
- **Gateway Presentation for Parents/Carers** – this presentation would normally be delivered in March in our associated primary schools. It gives information about communication with the High School and details about the S1-S3 curriculum.

Pupil Support staff have met online with all P7 teachers to gather information about your child that will be shared with staff at CDHS to help us get to know them. Transition planning meetings are on-going with our young people who require additional support with their learning. Work is also being done to support our p7 pupils who require enhanced transition.

S1 class lists will be made up in April and shared on the P7 team. Pupils will have a Register Class (1K, 1S, 1T etc) and a Practical Class(1A, 1B, 1C etc.) *If there are any issues with the class your child has been placed in then please get in touch with me.*

Once the class lists have been posted, we will set up class 'channels' in the team where pupils can chat to each other. We will post some fun 'getting to know you' activities for pupils to complete that will help them get to know pupils in their class coming from other primary schools.

P7 Virtual Induction Days – Wednesday 16th – Friday 18th June

Unfortunately, we are unable to have our p7 pupils visit CDHS in June for their induction days again this year and instead, there will be 'virtual induction days' that take place on the p7 team. The feedback from pupils, parents and staff from our virtual induction days last year was really positive so the plan for this year will be very similar.

A timetable will be posted for pupils to follow with 5 subjects per day. Staff will post some fun activities/tasks for pupils to complete for each subject area. There will be a virtual tour of the school and a video of staff introducing themselves which will help pupils put a face to a name.

Pupils will not be expected to do work for primary during the induction days.

Hopefully all the information you need will be contained in the presentations/information leaflets but if there is anything further you wish to know or would like to discuss then please do not hesitate to contact me by email on gw07cookalison@glow.sch.uk.

Yours sincerely,

Alison Cook

Depute Headteacher