

Dear Year 6 Student,

Moving to a secondary school can be a daunting experience when life is normal, so we understand that many of you will be feeling unsettled about how transition is going to work this year.

We would like to assure you that all the staff at Bideford College will do everything they can to reduce any anxiety you have about starting secondary school in September.

We will continue to work with your primary school teachers and your SEND Co to ensure we have all the information about you, you're learning needs, what you are good at and what you need some extra help with. We will talk to them about what they thought you were going to get in your SATs and this will help us put you into classes for the first few weeks of term. These will not be set in stone though and if you are finding the work too easy or too hard we can move you to where the learning will best suit your ability.

Please don't worry or get stressed about the work you are missing in school. The most useful and important things you can do whilst you are at home include;

- Reading – read every day! Read fiction books for pleasure and newspapers and websites for news and information. If you find a word you don't understand look it up.
- Spellings – practise those words you find tricky. Know when to use their, they're and there and all those other homophones.
- Maths – practise your times tables – this is by far one of the most useful skills you can have when you arrive to us in September.
- Stay healthy – make sure you do some exercise every day, eat healthily and drink lots of water, stay in your normal sleep pattern and minimise your screen time.
- Be creative – do the things you enjoy; arts, craft, Lego, cooking, sport or take up a new hobby – sewing, knitting, chess, karate, ballet!
- Do something nice for your community – send a letter to a care home, put a rainbow up in your window – make the world a brighter place.
- Be helpful – help your parents around the house, make your bed and keep your room tidy. Some of you may have little brothers and sisters, play with them, teach them things, snuggle up and watch a film with them.

We will write to everybody as soon as we can to give you more information about transition days, how and where to buy your uniform and the family information evenings when you will meet your tutor and Head of House. We might need to do things a little differently this year but we will try and make the transition as smooth and worry free as possible.

If your parents have any worries they can email me [ajewell@bidefordcollege.org](mailto:ajewell@bidefordcollege.org) and I will endeavour to answer their questions.

We are really excited about seeing you all in September, in the meantime take care and stay safe.

Dr Ankers & Mrs Jewell