

Dovecotes Primary School

Ryefield, Pendeford, Wolverhampton. WV8 1TX

Headteacher: Miss G Beddow

Deputy Headteacher: Mrs L Jones

E-mail: dovecotesprimaryschool@wolverhampton.gov.uk

School Website: www.dovecotesprimaryschool.co.uk

Office: (01902) 558284 Attendance: (01902) 558236



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Changes to Year Six Transitions to Secondary Schools

Dear Parents,

I am including in this letter the information about what changes have had to be made to the secondary transition that the city was hoping to put into place in the next week or so. Sadly those plans have had to be changed. Please see the following information from the city council below:

Arrangements for Year 6 Summer Term 2020

The previously proposed arrangements for Year 6 to have a full transition to their secondary schools from the 29th June have now changed. Year 6 will remain the full responsibility of their primary schools, including both their learning and safeguarding until the end of the term. Most secondary schools will be offering some opportunities for familiarisation activities and they will communicate the arrangements to parents and the primary schools. The majority of secondary schools are committed to supporting the use of the 'Wonder' text and will provide this for their pupils. The CLL team are offering materials for primary schools to deliver learning during the last few weeks of term.

Several reasons have resulted in this revised arrangement.

Firstly, the Secretary of State for Education stated that the Government is no longer insisting that primary schools should welcome more children from year groups that had not already been invited back, namely year groups 2,3,4 and 5.

Secondly, through further discussions with the secondary schools it became clear that there was not going to be a consistent offer across the City and for many Year 6's this would mean that they would be expected to spend the majority of time learning at home with limited support and attendance at the secondary school. As a result of this many primary headteachers were concerned for the safety and well-being of the children if they were not going to be in a school.

Our principles have put safety first, we knew we would have to be flexible and make changes in response to government guidance. We realise may mean some re-organisation of plans for primary schools but we believe this change in approach is necessary.

Dovecotes school believes the children who are now in our year six bubbles should now stay with us until the end of summer term as normal unless you have recently informed us that you don't want the place. The children are really enjoying being back at school and it is so important for their well-being that we don't ask them to leave early. We will continue to follow our transition lessons to help them as much as possible to be ready. We are expecting further information from the secondary schools on how they will communicate with the children for any transition experiences and do our best to support them in these plans.

Keep well and safe,

Miss Beddow

