



Dear Parents/Carers,

## **Taster Days and Information Evening on Tuesday 2nd, Wednesday 3rd and Thursday 4th July 2019**

I am writing to you to provide further information regarding the above events. Firstly, we hope that your son/daughter will be able to attend the Taster Days. It is a marvellous opportunity for him/her to meet staff and fellow students, as well as to learn a great deal about Hinchingbrooke.

**Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup>, Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> and Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> July** - students will travel to and from school via the regular method of transport that they will use in September; school hours are 8:40 am until 3:30 pm. If you are dropping students off, please be aware that parents are not allowed onto the main school site. Below is a list of the school buses, stops and times, this is for school run buses only. Bus passes are not needed; the operators have been informed of this arrangement.

Please be aware that if your child is traveling to school by a school run bus in September, you will need to have applied for a bus pass on line via Education Transport, Cambridgeshire County Council, this will be sent out over the summer.

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/children-and-families/schools-&-learning/school-transport/>

On **Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> July** students will need to bring a PE kit and trainers with them, if possible a house coloured t-shirt to reflect their Hinchingbrooke form group (Cromwell – green, Montagu – yellow, Pepys – blue, Vesey – red, Wylton – purple).

On arrival, students will be greeted in the bus bays by sixth form students and then be escorted to the Food Court playground. Alternatively, they can make their own way directly to the Food Court playground where they will be met by their form tutor. If arriving by bike (no scooters please), students need to use the cycle sheds near Well Green (to the left and at the rear of Middle School). Students need to wear their primary school uniform for all three days and bring a pencil case and water bottle. They can bring a packed lunch or money to purchase a meal from the Food Court, £2.40 is enough for a meal deal. If your child is in receipt of free school meals, they will receive their entitlement as normal on these days.

### **Route HB03 – Grafham (Whippet Coaches)**

07:50 Southoe Village  
07:58 Model Farm Cottage, Buckden Road  
08:00 Grafham Cinnamon Restaurant  
08:02 Ellington Thorpe, Thorpe Lodge Cottage  
08:05 Ellington Bus Shelter

### **Route HB04 – Buckden (Dews' Coaches)**

08:00 Silver Street  
08:04 Opposite 6 Glebe Lane

### **Route HB05 – Offord D'Arcy (Whippet Coaches)**

07:55 Manor Farm, Offord D'Arcy  
07:58 Graveley turn, Offord D'Arcy  
08:01 Offord Primary School  
08:03 The Swan, Offord Cluny

### **Route HB06 – Keyston (Whippet Coaches)**

07:18 The Park, Keyston  
07:20 Old Rectory, Keyston  
07:35 Lay-by, Bythorn  
07:52 Church End, Catsworth  
07:55 Bus shelter, Catsworth  
07:57 Kimbolton Road, Stow Longa  
08:00 Green, Stow Longa  
08:05 Stow Road/near Church Lane, Spaldwick

### **Route HB07 – Brington (Whippet Coaches)**

07:25 Telephone kiosk, Easton  
07:40 Crosskeys Public House, Molesworth  
07:45 Brington Primary School

07:50 Black Swan, Old Weston  
 07:55 The Avenue, Leighton Bromswold  
 08.05 Wooley Road, Barham  
 08:06 Lodge Farm Cottage, Wooley  
 08:15 Memorial Hall, Alconbury

**Route HB08 – Buckden (Dews’ Coaches)**

07:54 Buckden Marina  
 07:57 Lower Mill Road, Buckden  
 07:59 Mill Road/Park Road, Buckden  
 08:00 Buckden Green  
 08:03 31 Greenway, Buckden  
 08:05 Top of Manor Gardens/Church Street, Buckden  
 08.06 The Lion, Buckden

Students will complete CAT4 and NGRT tests on the Tuesday or Thursday. Cognitive ability testing (CAT) assesses a student’s ability to reason with and manipulate different types of material. This is through a series of Verbal, Non-Verbal, Quantitative and Spatial Ability tasks. The resulting data can then be used to identify a student’s strengths, weaknesses and learning preferences. This provides accurate and reliable information that is essential for personalised learning. The more we know about a student, the better position we will be in to offer a learning environment and ways of teaching and learning that allow all students to maximise their potential.

The CAT4 takes approximately 2 hours to complete and it will be completed on-line, which is both easier for the students but also allows a quicker response time. There is no need for pupils to prepare for the CAT4, as there is no revision that can be done. The best preparation is for them to ensure they have had a good breakfast and come to school in a positive frame of mind. This will allow them to perform at their best and therefore fully demonstrate their potential. This takes place in one of the schools ICT suites, students will be told where they need to go by their form tutor on the day.

The New Group Reading Test (NGRT) pinpoints strengths and weaknesses in key aspects of reading, comprehension and phonics. This test will take about 25 minutes to complete and again requires no preparation. Students will be sitting both of these tests at the same time. It is important to reiterate to your children that these tests are nothing to worry about.

The **Information Evening on Thursday 4th July** starts from 6.00 pm at the Performing Arts Centre and finishes at approximately 8.00 pm, please sign in upon arrival. The evening comprises of:

6.00 pm	<b>For parents of form groups ending in 1</b> Talk 1 in the Performing Arts Centre from the Principal, Head of Year 7, Head Boy and Head Girl
7.00 pm	<b>For parents of form groups ending in 2</b> Talk 2 in the Performing Arts Centre from the Principal, Head of Year 7, Head Boy and Head Girl

Price and Buckland will be in attendance from 5 pm in the gym (entrance via the Food Court) to give students an opportunity to try on uniform for sizing and to place an order. In addition, there will be an opportunity to look at curriculum displays in Lower School and to meet with teaching staff.

Refreshments will be available during the evening in the Food Court, alongside samples from Chartwells our school caterers. Members of staff from Learning Support will also be in attendance to meet with parents who have concerns about their child’s individual educational needs. Students are welcome to attend if parents so wish, although they will receive all the information they need during the day.

I hope this answers any questions you might have, but if not please feel free to contact the Lower School.

Yours faithfully,



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