



# Bishop's Hatfield Girls' School

Co-Headteachers: Ms T Nickson BEd (Hons), MA, NPQH, FCCT

Mr A Wood BA (Oxon), PGCE, MBA, NPQH

Woods Avenue, Hatfield, Herts AL10 8NL T: 01707 275331

Email: [admin@bishophatfield.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@bishophatfield.herts.sch.uk) Website: [www.bishophatfield.herts.sch.uk](http://www.bishophatfield.herts.sch.uk)

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29th June 2020

Dear Parents/Carers and our new Year 7 Pupils

As we enter the final few weeks of the academic year we thought we would update you with some information relating to the transition process for your daughter moving to BHGS in September 2020. Please excuse the length of the letter, but we thought it would be useful for you to hear about our plans to ensure that your daughter makes a successful and smooth transition to secondary school.

We are also very aware that both parents/carers and pupils alike may be anxious about the transition in the current climate.

## Contact with our feeder Primary Schools

Over the past few weeks, we have been meeting remotely with our feeder primary schools and also reading pupil transition forms about each pupil carefully. This has allowed us to learn more about every individual girl joining us in September. It has also been a pleasure to speak to a large number of Year 6 teachers to learn about our new pupils, their needs and what they excel at. This has allowed us to build up a good picture of all the girls due to join us in September, how they learn and what they enjoy doing both at home and at school.

## Contacting Parents/Carers and pupils

We have already started contacting, via a phone-call or email, parents/carers and pupils who are due to join in September. These are being carried out by key staff at the school. The aim of this contact is to enable you to ask any questions you have about the transition to BHGS. We recognise that many Year 6 pupils will have returned to school so we will endeavour to call at a convenient time.

## Form Tutor Groups

Using the information we have gathered, we have started to put together the Year 7 form tutor groups. The girls will find out their Tutor group when they start in September. However we will be sending you some information about our 5 brilliant Year 7 Form Tutors before then. The tutor group will also indicate which House a pupil is in - Austen, Franklin, Hadid, Parr or Seacole.

**"This is an OUTSTANDING school" - Ofsted 2016**



## Year 7 Transition Day - 9th July 2020

It has been decided by the 5 secondary schools in Welwyn Garden City and Hatfield that this day cannot take place on this date. Pupils will still have a Transition Day however and we hope this will take place on Thursday September 3rd 2020. On this day, only Year 7 and Post 16 students will be in school and it will therefore be an excellent opportunity for pupils to learn about secondary school and prepare for the start of term with their Form Tutor and other key staff. Some general details of this day will be sent out before the end of the Summer Term.

## Introduce yourself to your Form Tutor project

We also want to give you the chance to introduce yourself to your Form Tutor in advance of starting at BHGS. To help you do this we have designed a 'Postcard for my Form Tutor'. This short writing task is designed to allow you, as pupils, to personally write a short piece on the postcard to your Form Tutor. This can include information about you, your hobbies, your favourite memories from primary school and how you feel about studying a wider range of subjects. You may also want to include a section on what you have done during the lockdown and how you have felt. We have also included a top 3 reading log section where you can tell us about the books you are reading/have read over the past few months. Details on this project will be sent to you in the coming weeks.

## Pupil Transition Booklet 2020-21

As we have not been able to visit the girls in their Primary Schools and answer their important questions about BHGS we have put together a Pupil Transition Booklet which we hope will cover a lot of the questions that we hear when we do our school visits. We hope your daughter enjoys reading this and completing the transition activities and competitions at the back of the booklet.

## Information for New Parents/Carers Booklet 2020-21

At our New Intake Evening in July you would have received the Information for New Parents/Carers booklet which contains a wealth of useful information about us and starting Secondary School life at BHGS. This will now be found in your packs being sent in the post this week.

## Library Competition & Reading List

Our school library is an amazing place and we are keen for our girls to continue their reading through the Summer holiday. So our School Librarians have put together a brilliant reading list for the girls to have a look at plus a great competition to design a bookmark for the library. Try to encourage your daughter to get involved and win some of her first House Points when she starts in September.

## Free School Meals

If your daughter is currently entitled to free school meals, you should contact Hertfordshire County Council's Education Benefits Team between 27th July and 1st September by telephone on 0300 123 4048 or via email – [howcanwehelp@hertfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:howcanwehelp@hertfordshire.gov.uk) and notify them that your daughter

will be moving to BHGS from September. If they are still entitled to free school meals this will ensure they continue to receive free school meals when they join us.

Finally, can we encourage you to follow us on any of our three social media platforms or our school website. This will allow your daughter and the family to keep up to date with all that is happening here at BHGS.



@BHGSchool



@bishopshatfieldgirls



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If you have any questions that need answering please do not hesitate to contact any of us at school.

Yours sincerely

Mr A Dudley  
**Deputy Headteacher**

Dr S Venz  
**Assistant Headteacher**

Mr S Lister  
**SENDCO**

[admin@bishophatfield.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@bishophatfield.herts.sch.uk)

01707 275331