

Dear Parent/Carer,

Welcome, again, to OIEA!

We are delighted that your child will be joining Ormiston Ilkeston Enterprise Academy in September 2021. We are really looking forward to meeting both you and your child the time leading up to starting secondary school and of course in Year 7 and beyond.

We are currently finding out from Primary Schools as much as we can about your child. We are also already thinking through what else we can do to make our transition arrangements as useful as possible to help your child have a confident start to secondary school next term.

The current COVID 19 guidance from the government states:

***... schools should complete thorough risk assessments before running transitional, taster and open days to ensure that they are run in line with the system of controls and the roadmap out of lockdown.***

- ***DfE expects schools to plan these days with the bubbles system in mind, keeping children in their existing bubbles as far as possible, to reduce transmission risks. Children from different primary schools should not be in the same groups. This does of course mean that these days will not run exactly as normal and appreciate that careful planning may be required.***

Due to us being oversubscribed, we have students from 13 Primary schools joining us in September so, if the guidance does not change, would not be able to provide a “bubbled” programme and enough staffing to ensure that we ran 13 different transition activities and that this was safe.

We have two options that we are offering

1. If the guidance does not change, the transition days cannot take place on site, and we will be sending a video lesson from each subject area to your child’s school for them to experience secondary school teaching and learning. These will be fun but based around getting ready for secondary. We will also give you access to a video touring the site.  
We will be sending all of the children an invite to our summer school in the Summer holidays! This will run, no matter what option we have, and will be open to every child to sign up to and include preparation for secondary as well as a whole host of fun team building activities. Best of all it is **free** for all. We are really excited about it!
2. If the guidance does change, we will notify you and your child’s school and then run the transition days on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> of July as pre-arranged. The Summer school will still run in this option.

We will keep you updated with any decisions as soon as we can. Every single Year 6 child in the country is in the same position although we know that other secondary’s do not have children from as many primary schools as we do. Our promise to you is that we will work together with you and your child’s Primary School to ensure every child’s start to Year 7 will be as exciting and as positive as it can be. We look forward to meeting you soon, but for now, take care and if you have any questions please contact the academy.

Yours Sincerely