



July 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

I am looking forward to welcoming your child to Honywood as a member of Cohort 7 in September. I hope that the passion I have for my job will equip me to facilitate a successful and positive start to their secondary school journey.

I am responsible for leading the cohort, and together with the team of Learning Group Leaders, we will provide the framework within which your child will be able to flourish. We have high expectations and we will encourage and support them to see the value in striving for excellence in everything they undertake. Alongside this, I have strong belief in the value of well-being and looking after one's mental health. I will be ensuring that this, alongside the ability to develop resilience, is weaved into our PSHE programme.

The first full day for Cohort 7 is **Thursday 3rd September** starting at **8.45am**. Please note you will need to arrange transport to get your child to school on the first morning. However, our school transport providers will be running a service for the journey home on Thursday afternoon and will operate as normal for both journeys on Friday 4th September.

When your child arrives on Thursday, they should head to the Main Hall. Our Lead Learners and Deputy Leader Learners will be waiting to greet them and take them to their Learning Group rooms. They will also be with them to support them throughout the day. Cohort 7 will be the only cohort in school on both **Thursday 3rd and Friday 4th September**. This will give them an opportunity to familiarise themselves with the school, without the usual hustle and bustle that four other year groups naturally bring. If your child feels unsure about where to go or what to do during their first few days, please reassure them that they can speak to their Learning Group Leader, the Lead Learners, Prefects, or any member of staff who will be happy to help.

On the first day (Thursday), please send your child to school with a packed lunch. They will receive their cashless catering card during the day which will allow them to use the school canteen on Friday 4th September, if they wish, (once you have added funds via ParentPay).

If your child qualifies for Free School Meals, a lunch will be provided for them on 3rd September. Alternatively, you are welcome to send them with a packed lunch if you prefer. To request a school lunch for your child on 3rd September (if they qualify for Free School Meals), please email admissions@honywoodschool.com.

Communication between yourself and the school will be at the core of the relationship that we build. For most day to day matters, your child's Learning Group Leader is the best and most efficient first point of contact. You can, of course, always contact me either by phone on 01376 561231 or via email at dbriggs@honywoodschool.com

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Excellent attendance is essential to effective learning and as such, our expectation is that all learners should aim for 100% attendance. You can find an outline of our Attendance policy in the Information Requiring Consent booklet, which you will have already received and also in the Parent/Carer handbook which is attached to the covering email. The full policy is also available on the school website.

We have a busy first term when we return so please make a note of the upcoming events. On **11th September** the school photographer will be in school to take individual photographs unless you have expressed a wish for your child not to have their photo taken. These will be available for families to purchase online via Van Col Studios. Also during the first few weeks, the Cohort 7 disco will be held on **Thursday 15th October**. This is a fantastic opportunity for the cohort to socialise and build new friendships in a fun, relaxed environment. More details will follow when we return in September.

Looking further ahead, during our Summer Enrichment week from **5th - 9th July 2027**, Cohort 7 will have a residential trip to Caythorpe Court in Lincolnshire. More information about this will sent out closer to the time.

We are looking forward to seeing all the children's TREE booklets on the first day back, a task that was set on the intake days. A digital copy of the booklet is attached to the email in case you need another copy over the summer.

Finally, we will be inviting you to a '**Meet the Learning Group Leader**' evening on **Tuesday 22nd September**. We will send out more information regarding this at the beginning of the autumn term.

I hope that you and your family have a restful summer and I am looking forward to working with you and your child in September.

Yours sincerely



Mr D Briggs
Cohort Leader, C7