



8 September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope your son/daughter is settling well into life at Chosen Hill. They certainly look pleased to be in school and have been very helpful in already showing me around the site! I am very sorry for the IT challenges that have disrupted the start and apologies for any additional worry or frustration this has given you or your child. We know how important it is to make a good start and are very grateful for your support and understanding in working round these teething issues.

### Virtual Parents Information Evening

I have been very impressed with the way the students have adapted to the asymptomatic testing, thank you again for your support with this. Whilst we have readjusted to a more 'normal' school day we cannot be complacent and will continue to take care in the decisions we make over the coming weeks to make our school as safe and welcoming as we can. To this end we have made the difficult decision to run the Y7 Parents Information Evening next week as a virtual event. Whilst we are disappointed to not be able to welcome you in person we will be sharing the key information about curriculum, pastoral support and the wider opportunities available for your child. We will send this out in a recorded presentation next week. We would like to make this as purposeful as we can and would like to invite any questions, concerns or general information you would like to share via this [Forms link](#). We will collate these and include as many responses as possible in our presentation.

**Please can you send in any questions by Friday 10<sup>th</sup> September**

Please don't forget that you are very welcome to contact your child's Learning Mentor with any questions you have across the year.

### Boost Pilot Project

We are very excited to be one of two pilot schools in the county for a brand new programme being run in association with the Gloucestershire Constabulary. The 'Boost' programme has been developed to help students be better equipped to make positive choices as they make the transition into Secondary school.

The programme, focussed on building confidence and self-esteem aims to equip students with the skills they need to support them to set high aspirations and prevent them being overwhelmed by traumas/challenges they will face in life. We believe that if young people are given the tools and teaching to understand what good mental health looks like and the knowledge, mindset and skills to achieve it.

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The programme is facilitated by a group of our specially trained Year 13. They will deliver a series of short 40-50 minute sessions, which have been developed by Gloucestershire Constabulary, across one and a half days next week. They are active, and around students getting strategies to cope under stress, taking control of their emotions, increasing their awareness of their mental, social and physical needs as well as how to deal with peer pressure.

**Arrangements in school are as follows:**

Students will be off timetable for a total of 7 1/2 periods on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> to Friday 17<sup>th</sup> September. They will be working in small groups in the Sports Hall and will **not** need any books or equipment for the lessons they would have had at the following times:

Y7 Chosen LM Groups:

**Wednesday 15th September** all day

**Thursday 16th September** Periods 1, 2 and the first half of period 3

Y7 Hill LM Groups:

**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> September**, the second half of Period 3 and Periods 4 & 5

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> September** all day

All students will register each morning in their Learning Mentor groups as normal.

Students should attend both of the days as specified above wearing their Chosen Hill PE kit which they will be able to wear in the lessons on the half days as well. This is to make them more comfortable in the active activities, sitting on mats on the floor and moving around in the sessions.

We are very much looking forward to working with our Sixth Form students and Year 7 students in this exciting project, which will continue in regular follow-up opportunities woven into the rest of the year.

Many thanks,



**Matt Pauling**  
**Headteacher**