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Principal: Mr M Wood

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Outcomes Focused, Child Centred

15th May 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

Information for Parents/Carers

We are delighted that you have chosen to join us at Walbottle Academy in September. Choosing a school for your child can be one of the most difficult decisions a parent has to make. At Walbottle Academy, we care passionately about the education and welfare of our pupils and feel our pupils will flourish in a safe and successful Academy. It is a fantastic time to be a part of our community and we firmly believe that all young people, irrespective of background or ability will be incredibly successful as part of our Academy and our Trust. We appreciate the nerves around moving to secondary school can be high, and we want you to be reassured that we are doing everything we can to make sure the transition between primary and secondary school is as smooth as possible.

The first step in the transition process is that we are aiming to collect the contact mobile number of the main parent/carers for each Year 6 student. This will allow us to add you to 'Groupcall', a texting service which allows us to pass a message to all parents quickly, for example when there is a letter going home to students or when important information will appear on the school website. For future correspondence, we are also keen to understand Year 6 access to the internet at home and devices used, as we plan for further transition events in the summer term. We would therefore be grateful if you could complete a survey in order to provide this information. We would appreciate it if all families could fill in this form by Friday 26th May 2023. It is vital that we have all the information requested on this, in order for us to communicate our transition plans effectively and promptly. Please type the following link into your device at home and input the requested information:

<https://tinyurl.com/wbaYear6welcome2023>

One of the biggest queries and concerns we receive regarding transition is about uniform. We have high expectations of our children and it is important they feel part of our community and wear our uniform with pride. In good schools, children wear their uniform and we feel by removing fashionable trends, it allows our conversations to be about learning and not uniform. This year to support our families and to ensure you feel part of our community, we are offering you the following uniform bundle free of charge: full PE kit, a blazer and a tie. You can place this order on the above survey. Our uniform supplier is Michael Seghal & Sons Ltd where you can find all of the required uniform to meet your child's needs.

To support you further we have also identified some items of uniform that are available from other suppliers which should help, should you need to restock at short notice. Please find on the reverse,

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some examples of uniform items that are in line with our uniform requirements and are available from local departmental stores and supermarkets.

Our full uniform includes:



If you have any difficulties accessing the online ordering system with Michael Seghal & Sons Ltd, please contact the academy on 0191 267 8221 or via email at wba-year6-transition@northerneducationtrust.org. You can also follow our Twitter @NETWalbottle or our Facebook account: NET Walbottle Academy.

Expectations around jewellery

- Jewellery, other than a watch, is not allowed.
- Smart watches and other electronic devices are not allowed.

Expectations around make up

- Make-up is not allowed.

Expectations around shoes

- Plain black school shoes. No high boots. No high visibility buckles/bows/coloured laces or tags etc. No trainers or canvas.

Other equipment:

- Our students must bring appropriate equipment such as: a planner, pen, pencil, ruler, calculator, PE kit and any other necessary equipment.
- A suitable bag to carry books and any equipment needed during the academy day.

Other items of uniform:

- Either: plain black school trousers; no 'skinny fit' or tight trousers; no high visibility belts/buckles/zips etc. OR Walbottle Academy skirt; must be an appropriate length and be accompanied by plain black tights.
- Plain black socks
- Plain white shirt. Tucked in at all times.
- Academy blazer to be worn at all times in corridors and open spaces/dining hall etc.

- Sleeves must be rolled down. Students can remove blazers in classrooms with teacher permission.
- Academy tie.
- No hoodies on the academy site at all.
- Coats removed once inside the academy building.
- Plain black or purple hair bobbles. No bows or other excessive accessories.

Yours sincerely



S Crowthers
Associate Assistant Principal



M Wood
Principal