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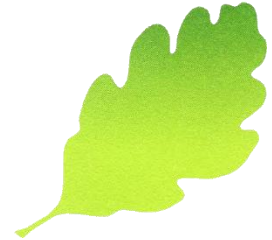
**Education, Communities  
and Economy**



Midlothian

**Headteacher**  
Mr G McMillan

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2020



Dear Parents and Carers,

### **S1 TRANSITION TO NEWBATTLE HIGH SCHOOL**

Due to the current restrictions brought about by the pandemic, the transition to High School will look very different this year and I am writing to let you know of what plans are in place for your child.

We are putting together a Virtual Transition, starting this week, so that we can share information with parents/carers and pupils about the High School. Unfortunately, at this stage physical transition activities cannot take place. We appreciate that this is a very worrying time for families and children, but want to reassure you that we are very much looking forward to your child joining us at Newbattle and, when Scottish Government advice allows, we will update you with plans to welcome them into the building.

#### **Virtual Transition**

- P7 pupils in Midlothian schools will be invited to join a Google Transition classroom for their Primary. This will allow us to post activities and information for the pupils. We will liaise with Primary Schools for those requiring physical packs and those pupils outwith the Authority.
- A Primary Transition tile has been created on our school website [www.newbattle.org.uk](http://www.newbattle.org.uk) where we will begin to put information for parents/carers relating to the transition to High School. There will also be a facility here to contact us with questions you may have.
- *Virtual Tour* – this 360 interactive tour will soon go live on our website and offers a chance to explore the building, learn about our school and meet some staff.
- We will run *Virtual Transition Days* on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> June, when activities will be available via the Google classrooms and online for pupils to engage with.

#### **Physical Transition**

- We are working behind the scenes with our Primary colleagues to ensure that information on your child's progress is shared with us.

- When we have allocated pupils to members of our House Team at the start of June, they will then start to make contact with families to introduce themselves.
- When it is deemed safe to do so, following Scottish Government advice, we will begin the process of welcoming pupils into Newbattle. This will include adapting plans we would have had for Enhanced Transition activities. At this stage, we cannot give any timeframe and we await national guidance.

This is an important transition for your child and we want to assure you of the warm welcome that awaits them here at Newbattle. We look forward to working with you over your child's time here at Newbattle.

Yours sincerely

*Mhairi Hume*  
Depute Head Teacher