



The
Portsmouth Academy

21 September 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

I would like to take this opportunity to give you an overview on everything your child has experienced at TPA over their first two weeks, and what to expect over the coming months for Year 7.

Firstly, I would like to say how proud I am of the year 7 cohort and how quickly they have adapted and settled in to life at The Portsmouth Academy. They have been an absolute credit to us at every stage; from entering the school in the morning, their positive attitude to learning and to their conduct during break and lunchtime.

Last week, Year 7 completed baseline assessments for English and Maths and their conduct and concentration was exceptional. The results from these assessments are used to support your child in their progress whilst they attend The Portsmouth Academy.

Last week the students had the opportunity to log on to the Microsoft Teams account and see how this platform for learning works. Technical 'mop up' sessions have taken place; therefore, all children have their logins. Please do contact the school if your child is not yet able to log onto MS Teams. No homework has been set on MS Teams up to this point but moving forwards, this is an extremely important tool to support home learning. MS Teams will be the online platform for all homework and student and parents should check this daily.

Students were given work packs for English, Maths and Science on Tuesday 8th September. These work packs will need to be brought back and handed to their individual classroom teacher for each subject.

Personal Social Health Education (PSHE) is a vital part of your child's curriculum, never more so during this time of uncertainty. Your child will receive a PSHE lesson once a fortnight, specifically targeted at their needs. An additional PSHE tutor session will occur once a week. They will cover key units of work: Relationships & Self Identity, Mental Health & Wellbeing, Keeping Safe and Citizenship. All the lessons are designed to support your child in their social and emotional journey through secondary education, as well as the government statutory guidance for PSHE and Sexual Relationship Education.

Your child has been issued with a Year 7 Reflective Journal to support them to become self-reflective learners during their time at TPA. Tutors will be using these in tutor time twice a week, using the activities to reflect on how they are learning each week.

Please keep an eye out for the weekly TPA Parent Bulletin, which gives vital updates on key events across the school and specific Year 7 information. This communication is emailed to all parents on a Thursday afternoon in order to allow you a chance to contact us, if required, to clarify any information.

Please also keep an eye on the weather and if rain is forecast, please ensure your child comes to school with an outdoor coat, as inside space is limited at break and lunchtimes.

Yours sincerely

Mr Davies

Head of Year 7

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TRANSFORMING LIFE CHANCES

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