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Contact: Mrs Birrell

Our ref: LB/MM

Your ref:

Date: 01/05/20

Parent / Carer

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope this letter finds you and your family well.

Due to the unprecedented situation we find ourselves in, you will be aware that we are unable to offer our usual programme of transition for your children, who are joining us in August, as the new S1 intake. We realise that the transition process is hugely helpful for young people prior to what is a significant change. Therefore, a Perth Academy Transition Planning Team has been established to ensure we make the transition process the very best we can, in the current circumstances, for all children. We are in regular contact with our primary school colleagues and they are also heavily involved in our planning process.

The Transition Planning Team have been working hard, alongside the Support Team, to develop an alternative transition programme to engage with your child over the course of this term. We are developing a YouTube channel for this purpose, through which we will share information, make introductions and set some challenges. We will also engage directly through Microsoft Teams. We aim to have these platforms in place next week, so a further update will be shared at the beginning of the week. An engaging programme has been planned where children will have an opportunity to see films of different areas of the school, take part in fun activities and meet Perth Academy staff.

However, I would like to reiterate the message that our Rector, Mr Lothian, shared with our school community yesterday. The most important consideration at present is the health and wellbeing of all. We realise some families are experiencing a full range of challenges and difficulties. Participating in the transition programme will be easier in some settings than others, depending on your own context and what you are dealing with. We fully appreciate how different it is for children being at home when they would normally be at school, so we do not want any parent or child worrying or feeling under pressure to complete activities set. Do your best. Do what you can. Do what's right for you and your family.

In the meantime, children can contact their current P7 teacher with any questions and these will be forwarded for us to answer. BBC Bitesize has some very helpful advice about starting secondary school and can be found on the following link:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zj2grj6>

We look forward to getting to know you and your children.

Wishing you a healthy and happy weekend.

Yours sincerely,

*Linda Birrell*

Mrs Birrell  
Depute Head Teacher  
Perth Academy