

26th March 2021



**Southfields
Academy**

**Principal:
Ms Jacqueline Valin**

**Headteacher:
Ms Wanda Golinska**

333 Merton Road
London SW18 5JU

Tel: 020 8875 2600
Fax: 020 8874 9949

Dear Parents and Carers of intake 21 students,

Welcome

We are delighted to welcome your child to our school community here at Southfields Academy. We recognise that moving from primary to secondary school is a big step for a child, and their parents or carers, so we aim to make the transition as smooth as possible. Below you will find information on what happens next in the process of moving from Year 6 to Year 7.

Accepting Your Child's Place

If you haven't already accepted your child's place, or have had difficulty accepting it on the Pan-London E-admissions system, please email admissions@southfieldsacademy.com and we can liaise with the local authority on your behalf.

Our Successes

For the past 20 years Southfields Academy has been rated Outstanding or Good by Ofsted. Latest data from the Government shows that we are in the top 31% of schools in England and Wales for the impressive progress our students make.

In 2020 our GCSE results were the strongest ever for the Academy. 89% of our students achieved grades 9-4 in English and 85% in mathematics. In their A Level exams, our students achieved a 100% pass rate with 33% A*-A. More than 110 students gained a place at their first choice university with a high proportion being accepted into Russell Group universities. Students who sat vocational exams, such as sport, 3D design, graphics, art, music, performing arts, dance, health & social care and travel & tourism achieved a 100% pass rate, with the highest proportion of Distinction* and Distinction grades of any secondary school in Wandsworth.

Uniform

We look forward to your child becoming part of our success story in September. To start this process, we will be offering an opportunity for parents and carers of new students to buy their uniform online from our supplier at this year's prices up until Sunday 4th April. After this date, our supplier will be increasing prices. A uniform list and a guide to ordering can be found on our website – Parents>Uniform.

If Covid restrictions are eased as planned, the uniform shop will also be open at various times during the summer holidays. The dates/times will be available at your child's interview and also on our website.

Visit Us

We would love to welcome you to the Academy to see it in action, but current restrictions prevent this. In the meantime, you can see a video tour made by some of our students here <https://youtu.be/9mXxFuYrGw4> When Covid restrictions ease from 17th May we will be able to offer tours again. Please phone 020 8875 2661 or email sean.french@southfieldsacademy.com to arrange one. Equally, if you have any questions about the Academy, we can arrange a call with the Principal, Ms Valin, or a senior member of staff at your convenience. If you would like to sign up to our weekly newsletter, please email Sean French at the email address above.

Interview and Primary School Visits

Our experience shows that a carefully planned transition programme helps our new students to settle quickly and happily into secondary school life. In June, your child and you will be invited to attend an interview at the Academy. If restrictions don't allow this, a virtual/telephone interview will be held instead.

At this interview you will meet a member of our teaching staff who will speak to you and your child about their move to the Academy and answer any questions you may have. Further details about this interview will follow.

Around this time and in order to get to know your child before they join the Academy, our staff will be making contact with primary schools to speak with Year 6 teachers and, if possible, make arrangements to speak informally with your child.

Induction Day

On Tuesday 6th July we will hold an induction day for new students. The detail and format of this will be confirmed nearer the date.

Starting Year 7

The first day of school for your child is Friday 3rd September 2021. On this day we will just have Year 7 students in the Academy so that the students can meet their class tutor, be given their timetable, find their way around and experience the routines of an Academy day before the older students return. We know and understand that during the first few weeks it will take new students time to find the location of their lessons and the times they're meant to be there. Please reassure your child that we will help them with this and that within a very short time they will get to know the Academy and its daily routines.

We pride ourselves on our pastoral care of our students. We see each as an individual and we will do our utmost to ensure that the needs of all our students are met during their time at the Academy. Your child's secondary education is a partnership between us and you, the parent/carer, and we encourage you to talk to your child about their day at school and homework as this will be beneficial to their progress.

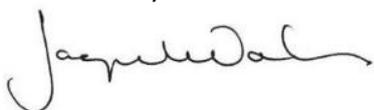
Important Dates

For information, our term dates for 2021/22 can be found on our website via News & Events > Term dates. INSET days have yet to be confirmed but we will communicate these to you when they have been set.

If you have any questions, please contact us on 020 8875 2653 or via admissions@southfieldsacademy.com. Another source of useful information is our website, in particular the area for parents of new Year 7 students. Please visit www.southfieldacademy.com > parents > New Year 7 Students - September 2021.

Once again, we extend a very warm welcome to your child and you to Southfields Academy.

Yours sincerely



Jacqueline Valin
Principal



Wanda Golinska
Headteacher