

Braes High School

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Falkirk Council

Children's Services

Dear P7 Parent/Carer,

One of the most exciting and rewarding parts of my job as Headteacher at Braes High School is seeing Braes Cluster pupils make their learning journey from primary into secondary school. At Braes, we very much recognise the importance of getting the transition from primary to secondary right for every young person. We know that moving from primary to secondary can be an emotional process for almost all young people; moving from a school where you know everyone, and everyone knows you, to a bigger school, where things might at first be a little unfamiliar. But we also know that moving to high school is a time of great excitement, and therefore we want to ensure that all pupils are well supported in making the move from primary to secondary.

Of course, circumstances are very different for families, pupils and schools just now. We cannot do all the things we would normally want to do in a Transition programme. However, I am very pleased to note the work that is taking place in getting information to our P7 young people, and their families, about school life at Braes. It has also been a pleasure to be part of some of the online discussions taking place with P7 pupils these last few weeks. As this term progresses Miss Wilkinson, Deputy Headteacher, and her colleagues, will continue to liaise with pupils, parents/carers and our associated primary schools, to ensure our young people are well supported through this time.

Throughout this transition programme you will get the opportunity to see Braes High School at work and at play. P7 pupils will be able to see examples of how those Braes pupils who have gone before them demonstrate the polite and respectful attitudes they are noted for, and also the great leadership skills they possess. P7 pupils will also be able to 'virtually' meet our staff and see first-hand their tremendous commitment to working with young people. However, most of all, what I hope P7 pupils and parents/carers experience is a taste of the positive, supportive and encouraging atmosphere within Braes High School, and a confidence for parents/carers that your young person will be well supported in making the move from primary school. In coming to Braes High School, your young person is making the move to a very high attaining school, a UNICEF Rights Respecting Gold Level school, where high expectations of behaviour, effort and attitude are the norm. However you are also coming to a school where compassion, understanding and unstinting support underpin all that we do, recognising that no matter a young person's background, they are backed to the hilt in maximising their potential.

I look forward to working with you, and your young person(s), in the months and years to come.

Yours faithfully,
Iain Livingstone



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