

Dear Parents and Carers of Year 5 parents,

We are rapidly approaching the time when you need to start thinking about your son's or daughter's transfer from Howard to secondary school in July 2017. If this process is not approached logically and methodically it can prove to be a very stressful time. However, with careful planning, sharing the decisions with your son and daughter and talking to us at Howard, the stress can be reduced.

Many of you may have already started to discuss secondary school preferences with your child. Almost immediately after the children's return to Howard in September the open days and/or evenings at the secondary schools will begin. To help you start planning early and getting dates in your diary a copy of the Secondary School Open Events is included. There is also a copy on our school web site www.howard.croydon.sch.uk should you misplace this copy.

I would highly recommend you visit schools that you are considering putting down on your preference application and DO TAKE THE CHILDREN to visit as each school is very different and offers different opportunities so please do your research carefully.

If you want to apply for schools outside of Croydon, for example in Sutton, please ask for a copy of that boroughs timetable of their schools open events or simply use the internet to explore dates and entrance/application instructions for each individual school.

The first open event in Croydon is on the 14th September and prior to that we will be holding a **Year 6 parent and pupil meeting at 6pm on Thursday 8th September** where we will try to help you understand the application process more fully, while also explaining the Year 6 expectations and how you can support your child's last year at Howard to ensure they achieve their full potential. All applications have to be done on line at www.croydon.gov.uk/admissions with the closing date for ALL LONDON BOROUGHS being the 31st October 2016.

Please feel free to contact me or a member of my senior staff, Miss De Saulles our Deputy Head teacher or Miss Handley our Assistant Head teacher and we will try to help you in a way that will hopefully help, BUT PLEASE REMEMBER, we cannot influence any secondary school decision only guide you.

Yours sincerely

J A Robinson Head teacher







