

Framwellgate School Durham
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April 2024

Dear Parent or Carer,

Welcome to Framwellgate School Durham

We are delighted to welcome you to Framwellgate School Durham, where a place has been reserved for your child to join us in September. Our school is based on the values of honesty and integrity, on the quality of our relationships, on respect and empathy for others, and on a genuine passion for learning. All these elements work together to help us build a community where every individual child, their talents and their aspirations are celebrated and promoted.

The new school year will begin on **Tuesday 3rd September 2024** and to help make the transition from primary to secondary school as smooth as possible, we are already working closely with primary schools, will continue to do so and are making arrangements for both you and your child to visit the school this summer.

Ethos and Values

Our ethos statement encapsulates our values and is intended to ensure that our students have the highest aspirations and pride in our school and our community.

Excellence, Compassion, and Respect for All

Our school promotes academic excellence and embraces the shared values of honesty, integrity, respect, and compassion. We want our students to be ambitious, kind, resilient and hardworking, and have a genuine passion for learning. We want them to change the world with the knowledge, skills and confidence they have learned here; to champion fairness, build friendships for life, and have pride in our school. Above all, we want our students to be happy.

Developments at Framwellgate School Durham

Your child will be joining us at a very exciting time.

Many of you will hopefully be aware that while your child is with us the school will be rebuilt. Building work is expected to commence next year and the building to be completed towards the end of 2026. This means that your child will benefit from these state of the art facilities from Year 9 at a crucial time when they begin to make decisions about their GCSEs.

In addition, from September the school will have a new Headteacher, myself, Michael Wright, following the retirement of Andy Byers after many of years of successful school leadership during which time he has secured improved recognition for the school from Ofsted, worked hard to ensure that the rebuilding of the school will benefit your child directly as well as, and perhaps most importantly, maintained and led a school with a strong ethos and equally strong values. I would like to take this brief opportunity to publicly thank him for his dedication to the school and affirm my personal commitment to helping the school continue to grow and develop.

Welcome Meeting and Transition Day – Key Dates

Monday 24th June 2024 – 6.00pm – Welcome meeting for all parents and carers of Year 6 students.

There will be a chance to meet your child's Head of Year, and other staff who are there to support you and your child. You will also learn about the specific logistics for the start of term and the day-to-day running of the school.

Friday 28th June 2024 – Year 6 Transition Day

All new prospective Year 7 students are invited to spend a day in school from 8.45am to meet their peers, get to know the school site and find out more about their lessons, as well as all the other opportunities and experiences we have to offer. The day will finish at 2:25 pm. This is a key part of the transition process.

Transport to School

Lee's Coaches currently run a transport service to and from school along the following routes:

- Coxhoe, Parkhill, Bowburn and school
- Bowburn and Shincliffe and school
- Bowburn and school
- Shadforth, Sherburn Hill, Sherburn Village, High Pittington, Low Pittington, Belmont, Carrville and school
- Meadowfield, Brandon, New Brancepeth, Esh Winning, Ushaw Moor, Bearpark and school

If you are interested in a place on one of these buses, please contact Lee's Coaches directly on 0191 378 0653 or by email to accounts@leescoaches.co.uk. If you would like to discuss provision of transport from an area not noted above, please contact Karen Atkinson at Lee's Coaches who will be pleased to discuss this with you. We would urge you to contact Lee's sooner rather than later if you wish to use their transport.

In addition, Weardale Travel run a service which covers Witton Gilbert, Sacriston, Nettlesworth, Langley Park and school. If you are interested in a place on one of these buses please contact Weardale Travel direct on 01388760465 or email ryan@weardalemotorservices.co.uk. As with Lee's we would urge you to contact Weardale Travel sooner rather than later if you wish to use their transport.

Uniform

Michael Sehgal Ltd, is our uniform provider. Further details of the exact uniform requirements will be issued later this academic year. The school has a small stock of pre-loved uniform available. Our uniform is one of the ways we celebrate and promote our shared sense of community and as such every child should have access to this, regardless of circumstance. If this is a source of worry for you or your family, please contact us.

Finally,

We will contact you again soon to gather further information to complete your child's enrolment into the school. If you have any queries, please contact one of my colleagues below:

- Mr Fran Ward, Assistant Head and Primary Transition Co-ordinator
- Mrs Denise Forrest, Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator

Please either email the school directly, marked for their attention, or call. Both the email address and telephone number are to be found at the top of this letter.

Your child's Head of Year in September will be Miss R Love and the Pastoral Manager will be Miss K Surtees.

All of the transition information can be found on our school website:
<https://www.framdurham.com/admissions/>.

Preparing to change schools is always a very exciting prospect and we want to ensure that all students feel confident when making that transition.

One of the strengths of our school is the quality of care and support we provide. The welcome our new staff and students receive when they join us is a true strength of the school and we feel confident that all children will be happy here, as well as being challenged and inspired.

We look forward to working with you next year and in the future.

Yours faithfully



Michael Wright
Headteacher Designate