

Dear Year 7,

I hope you and your families are all well and safe. Your first year at secondary school has not at all been as you or we might have imagined but I do want to tell you how proud I am of the way you have all dealt with the impact Covid 19 has had on your education and your life.

Some of you have sadly lost family members since you went home from Walton High in March and I send condolences on behalf of the Walton High community. You are very much in our thoughts. Losing much loved family or friends, whether from Covid 19 or other causes, is very difficult and I am sure you know that while sadness is uppermost in your feelings now, the wonderful memories of those special people will stay with you forever.

You have continued to engage with your learning very positively and are working hard to complete work of a very high standard. Remember that if you are finding aspects of your learning difficult, there are many ways to ask for help. Your teacher, tutor, Head of Year and members of the Learning Support and Pastoral teams really do like to hear from you and you can contact them via Firefly, Microsoft Teams or email. If you have any difficulty making that contact, please let us know by phoning the school or emailing mail@mket.org.uk. Don't forget to tell us your name and class!

Now, I need your help. We are well into planning our transition for Year 6 students from many schools around the city to join us in September. You will remember the meetings or visits that were part of your transition last year; however, we can't do it in exactly the same way this year. This is where you come in. I would like you to help our new Year 7 students by recording a short video message – it could be words of welcome or one piece of advice from your experience as a Walton High student.

Please begin by introducing yourself and then give your message. We will collate your words of wisdom and then send them out to our soon to be Year 7 cohort. Send your short video clip to workingfromhome@mket.org.uk and we will do the rest. Thank you in advance; I know we will be able to really help our new students feel less anxious about starting a new school.

Have a restful half term break; no new work will be set for you next week so enjoy the sunshine, help out at home and stay safe.

Best wishes

Ms Alexander