



The Thomas Hardy School

Headteacher
N St J F Rutherford BA

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March 2024

Dear Parents/Guardians

We are busy making plans for the entry of your children into our school. We have put together a programme of activities and visits which will help our new students become familiar with the way the school works, what our expectations are, and most important of all, to give everyone an insight into the educational and extra-curricular opportunities we will be offering in September.

Our first formal contact with the students will be after the Easter holidays, when Mr Rutherford will visit each Middle School to deliver an assembly, and hopefully give your children plenty to think about as they enter the final stretch of their Middle School journey. Then, in June, there will be more detailed presentations at the Middle Schools, presented by Mr Rutherford, Headteacher, and the Year 9 team. During the assembly we will present to Year 8 students on topics important to them as they make the move into Year 9. All external students are invited to attend Dorchester Middle School for this event.

This June visit will be linked to a parents' evening later in the month. The evening will give you the opportunity to find out more about the Year 9 curriculum, opportunities, expectations and most importantly allow you to meet your child's tutor.

Our transfer day will take place on Thursday 4th July, which will involve an extended pastoral tutor session in the morning as well as curriculum-based activities in the afternoon. On this day, students will also complete the 'New Group Reading Test' (NGRT), in order to inform us of their literacy levels and guide possible interventions. This day will give the students the opportunity to see the school and to meet each other and their new tutor. In this way we hope to help our new students get to know our school, some of our staff, and each other before they arrive.

We are very much looking forward to meeting you all and to working with you to achieve the very best for your children.

Yours faithfully

Mrs C Noble
Assistant Headteacher

jj/O/Admin/Yr8/Transition Flyer Itr March 2024

Leadership Team

Mr I Cornell BSc
Mr J Dean BSc
Mrs R Glennie BA (Hons) MA
Mrs L Morrison BEng
Mr R Nicholls BSc
Mrs C Noble BA
Miss C Tanner BA (Oxon)
Mr S Walker BSc (Hons)



DIARY DATES

Mr Rutherford, Year Team and Students visiting Middle Schools

- Thursday 13th June St Osmund's Middle School
- Friday 14th June St Mary's, Puddletown
- Tuesday 18th June Dorchester Middle School

Students from other schools are invited to attend the roadshow at Dorchester Middle School and will walk there from reception at Thomas Hardy School (meet at 8.50 am). Students will return to the Thomas Hardy School to be collected at 10.30 am.

Information Evenings for Parents

- Tuesday 25th June - Letter will be sent out with specific invitation and timings.

Curriculum Day at Thomas Hardy School

- Thursday 4th July - Students will spend time with their tutor getting to know their new tutor group followed by lessons in curriculum subjects.

Please Note: On the day your child attends The Thomas Hardy School, they will go to their Middle School in the normal way but return home at 3.30 pm from The Thomas Hardy School either by walking or by school transport.

Students from schools other than the three middle schools need to report to the Main Reception at The Thomas Hardy School by 9.15 am and should be collected at 3.30 pm on the transfer day.