



Chilmington Green School

The best in everyone™

Part of United Learning

Newsletter – April 2023



Dear Parents/Carers

We are very excited to share with you our first Chilmington Green School Parent/Carer Newsletter which we will share with you electronically every two weeks as we prepare for our opening in September. The aim of this newsletter will be to update you regularly on our progress, upcoming events and further information that will ensure that your child is fully prepared to join us in September.

We appreciate starting a new school can be a daunting time for students and their families. As a staff body, we will be doing everything we can to ensure that your child settles quickly into Chilmington Green School and feels safe, valued and happy.

We believe that successful transition begins when children are still in primary school. Therefore, over the coming months, we will be working closely with our feeder schools, meeting with our new year 7 students and their teachers to ensure that every individual is provided with the necessary support throughout their journey into secondary school and beyond.

Parent partnerships are an incredibly valuable part of the process. We believe that working closely with families will maximise your child's chances of success. We have a dedicated and experienced transition team to support with the entire process and I would encourage you to contact us with any queries you may have at info@chilmingtongreenschool.org.uk

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Update on our Building

We have been visiting our temporary site regularly and are delighted with the incredible progress that has been made so far. The building has been transformed inside and out and will provide our founding cohort with the facilities to access the full and ambitious curriculum. We will have access to specialised science facilities, outdoor playing fields and drama and performance space. Our temporary home is in the centre of Ashford and is well-served by local transport services.

We are also excited by the progress made on our permanent site. You may have seen initial groundworks are taking place and we expect construction to commence over the coming months.

Update on Year 7 Places – September 2023

We are delighted to inform you we are fully subscribed for September 2023 with a waiting list in place. We have been overwhelmed with the interest, uptake and support offered from families within the community.

Dates for your Diaries

Transition Day – Friday 30th June – 09:00am - 14:30pm.

All students joining us this coming September are invited to attend Chilmington Green School's Transition Day on Friday 30th June. The day will be hosted at Wye School and will be an opportunity for students to be introduced to secondary school life. Students will enjoy a variety of activities throughout the day which will predominantly be delivered by Chilmington Green School staff.

Students should arrive for a 09:00 start and will be dismissed from the main school entrance at 14.30. Please ensure that travel arrangements have been made so that your child can safely travel to and from Wye School on the day. There will be an opportunity for parents/carers to purchase uniform from the pop-up shop at 14:30, further details of which can be found below.

For the transition days your child should wear their primary school uniform with shoes/trainers that will be suitable for outdoor activities. They will need to bring a bag containing drinks, a packed lunch, snacks and basic stationery (pen, pencil, ruler and rubber). Their bag should also contain any other items that you deem necessary, for example suntan lotion, waterproof, inhaler etc.

In preparation for the induction day, please could all parents complete the form accessible at the below link. [Chilmington Green Transition Form](#)

Parent and Carer Welcome Event 1 – Friday 30th June – 14:30 – 15:00

Parents and carers will be welcomed into Wye School immediately following the Transition Day. During the event, you will find out more about how to best support your child's transition to secondary school and about the day-to-day running of the school.

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Parent and Carer Welcome Event 2 – Thursday 13th July – 15:30 – 16:30

To provide families with the opportunity to meet with staff and see our temporary home, we will be inviting the school community to visit our Jemmett Road site at 15:30 on Thursday 13th July. During the afternoon, parents/carers and new students will be able to see our newly refurbished facilities, talk to teaching and pastoral staff and enjoy some light refreshments.

Start of Term and School Day Timings

The first day of term is on Wednesday 6th September. Term dates for the academic year 2023/24 are published on our website at chilmingtongreenschool.org.uk/information/term-dates/. Also published online are the timings for the school day.

Uniform

Our uniform is being provided by Pages Schoolwear, Ashford. Our full uniform policy and expectations can be found at www.chilmingtongreenschool.org.uk/information/school-uniform/

Uniform can be purchased in one of the following ways:

- Booking a fitting appointment with Pages Schoolwear at the below link.
<https://pages-schoolwear.co.uk/FittingAppointments/>
- During our transition day, Pages Uniform will host an in-school pop-up shop. This will be at Wye School from 2.30 until 4pm on Friday 30th June.
- Attending an exclusive uniform fitting day at the Pages Uniform Store, Unit 13, Invicta Business Park, Willesborough, Ashford TN24 0HB on Sunday 18th June between 10am and 4pm.



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Introducing the Chilmington Green School Community: Meet our Principal, Jon Rutland

We have now recruited all our teaching staff and, over the next few months, we will use our regular newsletters to introduce you to our teachers so that you can get to know them in advance of joining the school in September.

As Principal, I am first up and I am pleased to share with you my vision for Chilmington Green School and set out how we are going to make the school a welcoming, nurturing and inclusive place which gives every student the opportunity to succeed.

I am passionate about the importance of education and strongly believe that an exceptional education can have a transformative impact on the life chances of young people. Establishing a new school in the area in which I grew up is an inspiring opportunity and I am committed to giving young people the excellent education which they are all entitled to.

About Me

I grew up just a few miles from the Chilmington Green development and have lived in Ashford for much of my life. I started my teaching career at a school in Nottingham, teaching English and Geography. I then joined the Marsh Academy in New Romney, teaching English before becoming the Director of Learning for the department. I joined Wye School and United Learning in 2018, taking the role of Assistant Principal for Data and Outcomes before moving on to the role of Vice Principal for Teaching and Learning. These roles have enabled me to gain experience in a wide range of areas, including developing the quality of teaching and learning and overseeing the quality of pastoral care across the school. During this time, I have enjoyed significant professional development in preparation for the role of Principal at United Learning's Chilmington Green School.

My Vision for Chilmington Green School

Chilmington Green School will be a values-led school. In practice, this means we are seeking to instil character attributes that will allow students to flourish both within and beyond school. Our values of respect, determination and ambition will underpin our school community as a whole and will be explicitly taught through our curriculum. These values will support students in having high expectations of themselves, seeking opportunities to develop and being fully prepared to live successful and fulfilling lives.

What most excites me about being the school's first Principal is the opportunity to know each individual within our founding cohort. I hope that these 'small school' relationships between students and staff will be sustained as we grow through nurturing a close-knit community. Pastoral staff will be appointed to key roles to ensure that students achieve their potential in a supportive and nurturing environment.

Beyond this, academic success is of paramount importance. Our mission is to provide an exceptional education to all students irrespective of their starting point. Chilmington Green School will offer a fully inclusive and academic curriculum which seeks to prepare students for aspirational careers and further educational opportunities.

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I am determined that all students will benefit from a rich and varied extracurricular experience and we are working on an exciting programme which will give students opportunities to learn and develop beyond the classroom.

The school will be committed to our aim of operating at net-carbon zero and this will become part of our school culture, operational management and enrichment activities. Students, staff and the community will join together to minimise our collective carbon footprint and this environmental awareness will be a core part of our ethos and culture.

My Commitment to Working with Parents

I greatly value the partnerships between parents/carers and the school and believe they are incredibly important in maximising children's chances of success. Our formative years are a unique opportunity for both students and families to shape the school for the needs of the community. As a school, we will be facilitating community engagement events in preparation for our opening and on an ongoing basis once the school is fully open. We will also be working with both families and other stakeholders to give the whole school community the opportunity to have a voice in how the school develops.

The countdown to opening is well underway and I am very much looking forward to welcoming our founding students in September!

Kind regards

Jon Rutland

Principal
Chilmington Green School