

Dear Parents/Carers

Wootton Upper School is holding two Open Afternoons for families who have a child currently in Year 8. We are offering tours on **Tuesday 21 September** between 4-6pm (last tour at 5.30pm) and **Thursday 23 September** at 5-7pm (last tour at 6.30pm).

Our Open Afternoons will provide parents/carers an opportunity to view the school together with their Year 8 child. Given the Covid-19 pandemic, visitors will be required to book places in advance so we can ensure that we can manage the number of people on the site at any time. You can book a tour here: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/169983901425/>

Visitors will be guided around the school by a member of staff and meet members of the Wootton Academy Trust staff. Traditionally, our Open Afternoons would include lots of Wootton Upper School pupils on site. This year, we are limiting the number of current Wootton Upper School pupils to very small numbers because of Covid.

Wootton Upper School's core values are:

- Aspiration
- Opportunity for All and
- Belief in Ourselves

Visitors will meet a range of teaching and support staff during their tour of the school who will be able to show you how we encourage our pupils to become involved through our opportunities. We are very proud to be an inclusive school.

Our teaching staff will demonstrate the key elements and breadth of their curriculum which enable our pupils to be aspirational and have belief in themselves. Our pupils do this through their curriculum and the opportunities and support we provide all children. Teachers and support staff you meet during the tour will be able to answer your questions.

Visitors will be able to meet the Trust's Senior Leaders, including our Executive Principal, SENCo and members of the Local Governing Board.

Wootton Upper School Open Afternoons are always very popular events and we expect a large number of families will want to attend this year. Therefore, we would recommend you book your places as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.

We ask all visitors to be very mindful of how they can keep themselves, and others, safe including using hand sanitizer we will make available and, where possible, wearing face coverings during their tours.

Visitors arriving by car should use the side road next to the school and park at the back of the school on the tennis courts. **All tours will start at the back of the school.**

If you require special arrangements to be in place to enable you to attend an Open Afternoon, please let us know by emailing y9transition@wootton.beds.sch.uk . If you have difficulty making a booking do let us know via email: y9transition@wootton.beds.sch.uk or telephone the school on 01234 767123 between 9:00 and 12:00 and ask to speak to Mrs Neal, who oversees admissions to the school.

We are unable to offer tours during the school day to help keep our pupils and staff, as well as our visitors safe. If you are unable to book a tour on the two afternoons please let us know via the email address above and we will contact you to resolve this.

The deadline for applying for places is October 31 2021. Parents/carers need to make applications using their home local authority, usually Bedford Borough Council or Central Bedfordshire Council. The following links may be helpful.

www.bedford.gov.uk/schools-education-and-childcare/schools-and-colleges/cadem/school-admissions/transfer-to-upper-school/

www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/info/5/school_admissions

I look forward to meeting you.

Yours sincerely



Mrs McMorn

Head of School