



Astor College

Adaptable Creative Proud

Astor Avenue, Dover, CT17 0AS

Email: [admin@astor.dfamat.com](mailto:admin@astor.dfamat.com)

Telephone: 01304 201151

September 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

It has been an absolute pleasure to welcome all our new Year 7 students into College over the last few weeks. They looked extremely smart and only a little nervous, and made a very good impression. I am writing to you now to give you some information that I hope you will find helpful in settling your child into secondary school life.

Over the next few weeks, we will be working hard to help our new Year 7s feel confident and happy at College. For some students, we have made a few changes to tutor groups as I mentioned in the parent briefing before the summer. You will be able to meet your child's tutor early next term on the afternoon of the 31 October 2019. You will be able to discuss how your child has settled and go over any questions you may have. The tutor will also explain how the assessment process works, and how students' progress is measured in advance of their first assessment in December.

The booking can be made between 14.00pm and 16.00pm and we will open this via Parentmail nearer the time.

## Homework

Year 7 students will have **very little homework** over the next few weeks as they settle into secondary life and learn how to manage themselves daily with their timetables and new expectations.

Once homework has begun to be set the expectation is for students to write this in their planners and for you to check the planner weekly (with a signature) so that tutors and class teacher know you are checking. You will also be able to use the space in the planner to provide notes should this be necessary for your child to show their teachers. The planners and equipment will be checked on a Tuesday and detentions set for Wednesday for those who have not had the planner signed or are not equipped for school.

## Year 7 Assemblies and Outside Groups

Your child will have weekly assemblies taken by College staff. These can focus on a variety of themes and will generally tie into national events or themes that will support aspects of their learning in some lessons. They will also have an extended tutor period on a Thursday afternoon every two weeks where they will work through the PSHE programme. On occasions, we will also have outside speakers or groups who will present to the students on topics and themes that will help them develop as individuals.



The Dover Federation for the Arts Multi Academy Trust is a Charitable Company Limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales, No: 8039629. Company Offices, Astor Avenue, Dover, Kent, CT17 0AS.

email: [company.secretary@dfamat.com](mailto:company.secretary@dfamat.com)



## Communications

At Astor College we like to communicate regularly with our families. The newsletter is sent by email, and you will also receive texts and Parentmail communications about key information. It is important that we have your most up-to-date contact information and that you have completed the registration for Parentmail.

The College website at [www.astor-college.co.uk](http://www.astor-college.co.uk) contains lots of useful information, including copies of all recent letters and newsletters, and news of what is happening in College. Do have a look.

At certain intervals during your child's time at the College we will ask for your views about us. This will form an important part of our review process and help inform decisions and changes that we may look to make. Over the next few terms we are expecting an Ofsted visit and I would be grateful if you could take the time to log onto the Parent View portal and give your response to the questions based on your experience over the past few weeks and that of your child. You can find the portal at; <https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>.

We look forward to seeing your child thrive at Astor and to building strong ties with you as a parents/carers.

I look forward to seeing you at upcoming events.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L Kane', written in a cursive style.

Mr L Kane  
Principal