

23 March 2016

Dear <first name>

## Welcome to Ferndown Upper School

I was delighted to hear that you will be joining us this coming September.

I am very proud to be the Headteacher of Ferndown Upper School as I think that it is a very special institution. We not only achieve good exam results, but we also pride ourselves on the support and care that we provide for all of our students, as well as our many extra-curricular activities.

Some of the highlights that you will be able to look forward to are:

- Our friendly House system where you will always have an older student to either buddy up with or to help you with any questions or problems.
- A very safe and calm school where students enjoy their learning, our student survey shows 93% student satisfaction.
- A school that will help you excel in your exams – our Year 11 last year equalled Corfe and QE for GCSE results, even exceeding their results for GCSE Maths, GCSE English and 'A' Level progress.
- Lots of trips to look forward to, like our Barcelona trip or our skiing trip to Pila.
- Lots of sports clubs, we are currently unbeaten for Y11 rugby and we are the East Dorset male and female champions for badminton.
- Lots of other clubs, like our 'Green Power' kit car club or our creative writing club.
- Lots of competitions to enter like the 'Yes Chef' or 'Young Enterprise' competitions, for which we are the current holders.
- And finally a school where every success is celebrated, I have recently been into assemblies to award one of our students their Crufts trophy and the week before it was to hand another student their Karate award.

I can therefore guarantee that there is definitely something for everyone.

The transfer team is also looking forward to meeting you, to give you lots of information about us and to explain the programme that we have to welcome you to our school.

In preparation for your arrival, you will meet Heads of House and other colleagues; to ensure that we are fully informed about your needs and that you feel happy and comfortable about starting with us.

Year 8 students' transfer day will be on **Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> and Friday 8<sup>th</sup> July (8.25am start)**, and this is when you will find out about your tutor group. There is also an important parents' evening on **Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> July at 7pm** at Ferndown Upper School. Please make sure your parents know about these dates by showing them these letters.

Other information such as transportation, communication and data will be posted out to you nearer to May half term.

We will also be giving you lots of information about Ferndown Upper School, when we come into your current school, and this is where you will have the opportunity to ask us any questions that you might have.

In the meantime, if you have any concerns or queries, please leave a message with the school office or you can email our dedicated email address on [transfer@fernup.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:transfer@fernup.dorset.sch.uk) and we will get straight back to you. There is also a section on our website on the homepage with all the information regarding transfer, [www.fernup.dorset.sch.uk](http://www.fernup.dorset.sch.uk) .

Enjoy your last few months at your middle school and we will see you soon.

Yours sincerely,

Mr P. Jones  
Headteacher

Mrs G. Milsom  
Pastoral Manager

Mr A. Jones  
Head of Transfer