



NOTTINGHAM UNIVERSITY  
SAMWORTH ACADEMY

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Dear Parents and Carers of Year 7,

Message from the Head of School

I am writing to welcome you and your children to the 2016-17 academic year at NUSA! I hope that everyone enjoyed the summer months, and that our pupils are rested and ready for the challenges of a new school year.

The move to secondary school is always a big step for children, particularly if the pupil in question is the first from their family to make that step. I would like to take this opportunity to reassure parents, carers and pupils that NUSA is a school that is shaped by its motto of "Work hard, be kind". It is exactly these values that helped our Year 11s of 2015-16 secure the best examination results ever seen at the academy. 52% of our pupils secured GCSEs that included A\*-C grades in English and mathematics, and grades in almost every other subject showed big improvements, too.

It is then, a great time to be joining NUSA, and our Year 7s have made a fantastic start in their first days with us. I wish them all the best for this year, and looking forward to meeting and working with them all!

Mark Watts  
Head of School

Message from Mrs Whiteley, Mr Derrick, Mr James and Ms Green

Year 7

Year 7 have made a great start to their time at NUSA. They looked very smart on their first day in their new uniforms. They have already been put into teaching groups based on the information we received from Primary schools and their attainment in Maths and English. They will be completing CATs tests over the coming weeks. There is no preparation needed for these. As we receive more attainment information we may make group changes as appropriate.

Tutor Meetings

You will have several opportunities to meet with teachers during the school year. On Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2016, there will be a chance for you to make an appointment in the afternoon to meet with your child's tutor and find out how they have settled into school. This is an important meeting that we expect parents to attend. By working together we can achieve the best for your child. There will also be an opportunity for you to see a short presentation on our assessment system for Year 7.

Progress Board Exams

During the week commencing 5<sup>th</sup> December 2016 your child will complete their first set of Progress Board Exams. We will send you further information nearer the time. We will support them through their Personal Development lessons to prepare and revise for these exams. We believe that children succeed when they feel calm and organised. Together we can help them achieve this.

### Parents' Evening – 19<sup>th</sup> January 2017

This will be an opportunity to meet with all of the teachers of the subjects that your children are learning. Make a note in your diary and we will send you more information nearer the time.

### Uniform

Our school uniform supplier for 2016-17 continues to be Price & Buckland <http://www.price-buckland.co.uk/parents-area/how-do-i-order/> and orders can be placed online or via their telephone order line 0115 964 0827. Deliveries can be made to your home address or if more convenient to the academy premises. Within the academy we do hold a limited amount of stock and can offer assistance with uniform orders on a daily basis between 12:45 pm and 1.15pm. If you would like to make use of this service please either drop in during this time to see the Admin Office or call the Academy main switchboard. Should this time not be suitable for you please contact your year team so that we can work together on an alternative solution.

### Equipment

Please can we remind you that students need basic equipment. Pen, pencil, ruler, sharpener, rubber and coloured pencils in a pencil case. They have all been issued with a Student Planner. Homework is set and recorded in the Planner. We ask that you support us by signing your child's planner each week once you have checked that they have completed it.

Uniform needs clearly labelling including P.E kit. This will help your child locate any items should they lose them and reduce any confusion.

### Extra-Curricular Timetable

There will be lots of opportunities for your children at NUSA. We are compiling our Extra-Curricular timetable and will publish a copy of this so that you can see which clubs and activities they can take part in before and after school.

### Parentpay

We are in the process of organising your activation codes for parentpay. These will be sent to you in the next few weeks. In the meantime, students can load their account with cash at the machines in school.

All of the letters that we send home to you will be published on the school website. We also try to send text reminders so please make sure that we always have up to date contact numbers.

Mrs M Whiteley  
Senior Leader KS3 Achievement

Mr L James  
Head of Year 7

