

## **Summer School Report – 2021 intake**

### **Rationale**

The aim of the Test Valley School summer school was to provide both academic and enrichment activities for pupils transitioning from Year 6 to Year 7. Transition to secondary school is a challenging time for pupils and the intent of the summer school days and camp was to help pupils cope with these challenges, especially this year when young people have had the extra challenge having missed a significant proportion of KS2 face-to-face teaching and the valuable preparation that primary schools put in towards transition. The aim was to reduce pupils' anxiety about the move to secondary school, introduce pupils to the school, each other and key members of staff, and to monitor academic abilities to assess for any additional support they may need, particularly in English and Maths, when they joined us in September.

The intent was for qualified teaching and support staff from Test Valley School, to offer the programme to all pupils who would be joining us in September 2021 – at the time of the camp, this was a total of seventy-four pupils. Sixteen of these were eligible for pupil premium.

### **Implementation**

A range of activities were offered over three full days at the start of the summer holidays, followed by a further two days with overnight camp, towards the end of the holidays. The activities offered helped pupils build a community with their fellow pupils, forge relationships with new teachers and familiarise themselves with their new school environment.

The programme was delivered by the Test Valley School Senior Leadership Team, with the Pastoral Heads of Key Stage, SENCO, teaching staff, pastoral support team and LSAs.

Of the spaces offered fifty-eight pupils attended, eleven of which were eligible for Pupil Premium.

### **Activities offered**

Circus skills  
Cooking  
DT and maths  
Free reading books  
Assessment of reading abilities  
Team building activities  
Dance  
Music  
Pastoral support

**Cost**

TOTAL Staffing Cost	£	7841.97
Planning hours (15)	£	969.00
Transition Booklets	£	62.90
Circus skills	£	340.00
Thinking Reading program	£	4,000.00
Inflatables	£	360.00
Art supplies	£	155.37
Branded stationary	£	296.43
Pizza Making	£	189.14
Catering provisions	£	284.51
Premises Costs	£	1,000.00
Food Costs - £5 a day per head	£	1,385.00
TOTAL	£	16,884.32

**Impact**

Feedback from parents and pupils shows that pupils have formed good friendships from the Summer Camp which have carried over into the start of the school year. Feedback also shows reduced anxiety in pupils after the summer camp, a time when we would usually see anxiety peaking.

The use of the reading books and the Thinking Reading Programme, from the summer camp, ensured that the English department knew pupils strengths and weaknesses for starting in September and could use the book as a common interest to all pupils. The Think Reading program will continue to be used with Year 7 pupils to support their reading.

**Quotes from parents**

- 'My daughter comes back happy and excited from school.'
- 'The friends made at the pursuit days and camp helped settling in.'
- 'She has reconnected with friends that she made on the Pursuit days.'
- 'He's made lots of new friends, he's enjoying the subjects and he's really excited for any extra-curricular activities.'
- 'Has settled in well and is enjoying school.'

**Comments from pupils**

- 'I'm really excited and happy because I've made new friends at the Pursuit Camp.'
- 'It's not nearly as scary as you think it's going to be.'
- 'I didn't know anyone but made friends on the pursuit days.'
- 'I'm feeling really welcomed.'

Post Camp analysis

2. Please indicate below how your child was feeling about joining Test Valley School at different times

[More Details](#)

■ Excited  
 ■ Happy  
 ■ Nervous  
 ■ Extremely anxious  
 ■ N/A

