

Summer School 2021

Impact report

A 5 day summer school was offered to all rising Year 7 students (166 in total), from Monday 9th-Friday 13th August 2021. A particular effort was made to engage more vulnerable students (PP, SEN, CP) and parents of these students were targeted with telephone calls encouraging them to participate.

The summer school aimed to support students with the transition from primary to secondary school, and to aid educational recovery following COVID-19, both academically and in terms of wellbeing.

The summer school curriculum comprised lessons in English, Maths, Science and Humanities as well as lessons in Sport, Team Building, Cooking, Art and Drama. The students attended an assembly at the start of each day and a celebration event at the end of the week. Lunch was provided and eaten by all staff and students together each day.

Cost of operating the summer school:

Facilities	£4070
Food costs	£643
Curriculum resources	£250
Teaching staff	£5004
Support staff, inc Deputy DSL	£4370
Organisation and facilitation	£287
Total cost of summer school	£14624

Attendance:

100 students signed up to attend the summer school and attended on at least one day.

Attendance per day was as follows:

Day	Monday 9/8/21	Tuesday 10/8/21	Wednesday 11/8/21	Thursday 12/8/21	Friday 13/8/21
Total no of students in attendance	90	88	91	90	90
Total no SEN	15	15	15	14	15
Total no PP	24	22	24	24	25

Parents of students who had signed up to attend, but not arrived, were contacted. The most common reason given was changing holiday plans.

Feedback was sought from parents and students on Friday 13th August, the final day of the summer school.

Student Feedback:

Parent feedback (1-5 scale, 1= strongly disagree, 5=strongly agree)

Question	Average score
I have enjoyed summer school	4.25
I feel summer school has made starting Year 7 easier	4.38
I have made some new friends during the summer school week	3.84
I feel I have learnt lots during the summer school lessons, which will help me in Year 7	3.90

Students particularly identified their favourite parts of the summer school to have been:

- Making new friends
- Team Building
- Art, Cooking, Maths and Sport
- Having food at break and lunch time together in the dining hall

Parent Feedback:

Parent feedback (1-5 scale, 1= strongly disagree, 5=strongly agree)

46 respondents

Question	Average score
My child has enjoyed attending summer school.	4.83
I feel attending summer school has made starting Year 7 easier for my child.	4.87
My child has made some new friends during summer school week.	4.59
I feel my child has learnt lots during the lessons they've had as part of summer school week, which will help them in Year 7.	4.72
I feel my child has particularly benefited from the summer school in light of the disruption that has taken place whilst they were in Year 6 due to COVID-19.	4.83

Parental comments:

- Huge amounts of amazing support for an incredibly anxious child, I can't thank you all enough for your patience and understanding when dealing with my family. It's very much appreciated, I feel set for success in September.
- Thank you for doing the summer school as it really has helped my child with looking forward to starting in September as I know he was very nervous. He has loved every part of the experience.
- My child is a particularly closed off boy, he doesn't find it easy to share his experiences or find the words to explain his feelings. However, this week he has come home bubbling over with enthusiasm for the setting, the teachers, the learning, the lunches and the friends he's made. It's been an absolute God-send to see him so positive and looking forward to year 7 proper. 10/10 from me.
- I believe that this week has given my son an insight on what to expect when he starts secondary school in Sept and he is excited and can't wait - so job well done !
- Summer school has made my daughter less nervous about starting in September which also makes me less worried for her. She has also made some new friends from other schools.
- My son was very excited to be going to school and keeping active during the break, with all the lockdowns and bubbles, this summer school has helped him come out of his shell.

- My son thanks the teachers for a good week and he can't wait to start in September now. I feel this has helped him get a feel for the school and meet some of the teachers which he hasn't been able to get because of Covid 19. He has even made some friends and doesn't feel too nervous now for September.
- Thank you for allowing this opportunity, I have loved hearing all about my daughter's day when she has returned home and she is looking forward to starting in September with a lovely insight into secondary school. Also we loved the certificates that she came home with, so proud.
- Huge thanks to all of the staff for providing this experience. My daughter has really enjoyed it and feels much more positive about starting in September.

Conclusions/next steps:

- The summer school programme was successful and achieved its aims of supporting Y7 transition both academically and in terms of wellbeing.
- The curriculum was varied and successfully captured students' imaginations, whilst also providing them with a sound introduction to our routines and expectations.
- The assemblies at the start of each day, the shared lunch, and the awards ceremony at the end of the week, helped to create a sense of community and ensured the students left with a clear understanding of the EPCS Character.
- If finances permit, there is a strong argument for repeating the summer school in summer 2022. The structure of the day worked well and could be replicated without change.
- Attendance at the summer school may be higher if the dates were published to rising Year 7 parents earlier, and potentially if the summer school took place either the first or last week of the summer holiday. A few parents responded to the initial summer school invitation saying they would have liked their child to attend, but had pre-arranged holidays.

Photos





M.Hall, Deputy Headteacher, 9th September 2021