

10<sup>th</sup> March 2026

Dear

## “This is a good school where students **Thrive**”

We are delighted that you have chosen to join The Dean Academy from September! Our school is a welcoming, friendly, and fun place to be, and we know that you will be highly successful here. We pride ourselves in letting young people find their own path and know you'll find something which excites you amongst the huge range of varied experiences and opportunities you'll get to try during your five years here. We hope you are incredibly eager to be starting secondary school, but we also know that as it creeps closer you may have some nerves too – and that is completely normal!

I wanted to write to you personally to share some key information with you and to explain to you the sort of things you can be doing to prepare for the big step up to secondary school. We know that the best way to feel more relaxed about the transition to secondary is to make sure you are as prepared as possible.

There are some things you can be doing now, to help get ready for joining us in September.



We want to hear from you!! Please take a few minutes to write me a **letter** telling me a bit about yourself and describe what makes you most excited about joining The Dean Academy. You can send me your letters via email to [info@thedeanacademy.org](mailto:info@thedeanacademy.org) or even put a letter in the post. Please include a return email address for a parent or carer so I can write a reply. Last year we received over 45 letters from our students who joined us so if you can find the time, please do write to me!



Your parents/carers can follow us on social media. We post regularly and hope they will be able to see the incredible opportunities at The Dean Academy – everything from trips and visits to amazing student work.

@thedeanacademyofficial



@thedeanacademyofficial





You will see we've sent you a **book!** At The Dean Academy we know the value of reading and we read in tutor groups every day. We fully recommend you find some time before September to read it from start to finish.



We know it might have been a long time since you visited the school for a **tour** or joined us at open evening. If you would like to visit to see the school again (or for the first time!) you are invited to attend one of our "**School in Action**" open morning tours. You can book on to one of our tours [here](#)

### **Key dates - Stepping up to secondary school**

- **Monday 6<sup>th</sup> & Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2026**

Students to join us at The Dean Academy for two "stepping up to secondary" days where you will meet teachers, explore the school, and have some taster lessons. More info to follow with timings

- **Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2026 (10.00 a.m. – 7.00 p.m.)**

Monkhouse School uniform providers will be on site at The Dean Academy taking uniform orders. This is for parents to book an appointment using a link we will send to you nearer the time. You will then need to select [The Dean Academy Lydney sell event](#) (Please do not worry if you cannot book an appointment – uniform can also be bought in store too)

- **Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2026 – Parent information evening 3.30 p.m. – 4.30 p.m.**

We hope parents will join us with their child to celebrate their first days as part of The Dean Academy, to hear how we will work with you to support your child over the five years and to answer any FAQs

I very much look forward to welcoming you to our school in July on one of our "Stepping Up" days (or before on a tour) and I hope you use your new The Dean Academy pencil case and equipment with pride this week.

Yours sincerely

**Hannah Rowlands**  
Headteacher

