



October 2021

### **Transition Summer School**

The Department for Education offered schools the opportunity to apply for funding to run a Summer School this year, and it was an opportunity too good to pass on.

The focus for Woodside was transition and we invited all of the pupils who were due to join Year 7 in September 2021, along with some of the older pupils to support.

This was set to run for the first week of the Summer holidays but unfortunately had to be cut short due to the groups needing to self-isolate as a member of staff working with them tested positive for covid after they had been in close contact. However, in the short time we had together, there was so much that was achieved and the children who attended have said that they really enjoyed it and that they feel that it helped them to be more confident for the start of the year.

Some of the activities we did manage to complete were a musical activity where the children introduced themselves through song and got to try out some instruments, thanks to the generosity of ArtsTrain. Damien and Barbara made the session very inclusive and so much fun.

The children spent time getting to know each other and completed some activities in small groups listening to each other, creating introductory posters about themselves, and completing some English and Maths activities that gave them a taste of the types of tasks they could expect when they started in September.

In addition to this, all of the children, staff, and some of the parents undertook a session where they created one of the school values using clay, with the help of Richard Gibson of ClayDayz. The individual pieces have now been used to create a display on the front of the school building and they make a great addition to our school environment.

This was a great opportunity and was only possible due to the funding made available and to the staff being able to give up their time to provide such an exciting experience. Thank you to all who were involved in making it such an interesting and memorable few days.

**Theresa Corcoran**  
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School Designated Safeguarding Lead

