Dear Parents/Carers,

We look forward to welcoming you and your child to Houston Primary School soon. Starting school is a special time which brings feelings of great excitement but it can also be an anxious time of change and uncertainty. We hope to support your child and family with this transition, making it as smooth as possible. This communication aims to outline our **Transition to Primary One**. Please note that this will be followed by an invitation which will be personalised for your child with the dates of their *Transition Visits*.

houstonprimaryschool.com

In March and April, I (Mrs Johnston, Depute Head Teacher) will meet with staff from the children's nurseries to learn about our new recruits and, where possible, arrange to visit them in their settings. Nurseries are currently working on Transfer of Information reports for each child. The school should receive these by the end of May.

In **April** the children will be invited to attend their first visit to Houston Primary School, in small groups. Dates will be specified in personalised invitations. This first activity will be a Treasure Hunt (tour of the school) and will be scheduled between 3.10pm and 4.30pm. One parent/carer is invited to accompany their child. You may wish to ask questions which staff can answer.

Children will attend their second visit in **May** where they will play in the Early Years Open Area and enjoy lunch in the Dining Hall. This will take place during the school day. Local nurseries usually support these visits by bringing children to the school. Arrangements will be in place to welcome others at the Main Entrance. On the third visit in mid **June**, children will spend time in the Primary One classrooms, meeting staff and participating in some fun activities.

Following the Easter holiday, we will e-mail a multimedia presentation containing links to useful information including our **Beginners' Handbook** and an interactive SWAY presentation containing a virtual tour and video messages from key staff members. This information will also be available on our school website under the Parent Zone tab.

Prior to your child visiting school, please e-mail me if your child has a specific learning need or medical condition which staff should be aware of. Please also send me a message if you have a particular query or wish to seek advice.

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Amanda Johnston
(Depute Head Teacher)