

# Maiden Beech Academy

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Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> April

Dear Parents and carers,

## Year 4 Hinton St. George First School: Transition to Maiden Beech Academy – September 2020

I hope this letter finds you and your family well and safe at this very difficult and challenging time.

I am writing in response to a letter sent to you last week from Charlotte Hall, head teacher Hinton St George First School, regarding the school's proposed age range change from September 2020. In the letter Mrs Hall requests that you inform Hinton St George First School of your decision regarding your son or daughter's education placement in Year 5 from September and in order for you to make an informed decision, I thought it would be helpful to clarify the position of Maiden Beech Academy and to share with you our exciting plans for the future. I fully understand that at this difficult time, this is yet another issue for you to worry about, but you will appreciate that this situation is not of our making.

**If you have applied for a place for Year 5 at Maiden Beech Academy, you need to take no further action and your child's place will be guaranteed. We very much look forward to meeting you and your son or daughter in due course.**

**If you have yet to apply for a Year 5 place for September or would like your child to attend Maiden Beech, please email the School Admissions Department - [schooladmissions@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:schooladmissions@somerset.gov.uk) at the Local authority to inform them that you would like your son or daughter to attend Maiden Beech Academy, the designated catchment school. I can confirm that you will be guaranteed a place as well.**

### Why choose Maiden Beech Academy?

This is an exciting time for Maiden Beech. On 1<sup>st</sup> December 2019, The school joined the Bridgwater and Taunton College Trust (BTCT). BTCT is regarded as one of the most successful multi-academy trusts (MATS) in the South West and being part of this innovative organisation is already bringing major benefits to us as a school and is further improving our already excellent provision.

The Trust has already funded capital projects to further improve our learning environment and is investing in additional teaching staff to allow us to reduce class sizes and teaching groups even further and to provide specialist provision for those children that need it.

In 2019, Maiden Beech Academy was the top performing middle school in Somerset and one of the most successful middle schools nationally in terms of end of Key Stage 2 outcomes. Our staff are experienced at working with Year 5 and 6 and are able to help the children to succeed in national tests.

At Maiden Beech Academy we can offer the following unique provision for primary aged children:

- **Specialist teachers** in all subjects - many of our staff have taught up to GCSE and A Level.
- **Small class sizes** – our aim is for all teaching groups to be below 25 children
- **Specialist facilities.** We are lucky to have the following:
  - Two science labs – the school is held in high regard nationally in terms of our science provision.
  - A design technology workshop and specialist food technology area.
  - Two computer suites



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



CHARTER STANDARD SCHOOLS



- A Learning Resource Centre
- Designated specialist classrooms including fully equipped music, art and drama rooms
- A designated SEND base led by an experienced SENCo
- Sports facilities – Maiden Beech has an unenviable reputation on the sports field!
- A unique partnership with the TVS School, Tumkuru, Southern India. We are not aware of any other schools in the country that have a residential trip to India for Year 8 children!

Over the last few months we have been planning and designing a new curriculum for the new academic year, which will provide children with even greater opportunities. We are really excited about our new offer, and we will share the details of this over the next few weeks via the school website, where we have set up a 'transition' page in the 'Useful information' section. Useful resources and information will be added to this page over the next few weeks – please check in regularly for updates.

### **Further information**

In these unprecedented times and with no opportunity to meet face-to-face with prospective parents, I am happy for you to contact me directly by email should you have any questions or require further information. My email address is [carl.winch@maidenbeech.net](mailto:carl.winch@maidenbeech.net). Please put 'Transition' in the message header to help me respond as quickly as possible. I would also be happy to speak to you on the phone; please email, so we can agree a mutually convenient time for the phone call.

Finally, please be assured that we have not forgotten about you and your children! We are currently working on new plans for transition - there is no way we will let them be 'thrown in at the deep-end.' We will make sure they have a chance to get used to life at Maiden Beech before formal lessons begin.

Kind regards



Mr Carl Winch  
Headteacher