

October 2020

Dear Year 6 Students, Parents and Carers,

### **Wellsway School Virtual Open Evening**

Thank you to everyone who has already had a chance to visit our school website and explore our Virtual Open Evening to find out more about us before making a final decision on your choice of secondary school.

Open Evening and Open Morning are two of my favourite events of the school year as it is such a pleasure to welcome so many excited children and their parents on to the school site to see the school facilities, meet the staff and students and to experience the school in action. Although many families will already have a connection with the school and may have visited us several times, there will be many who are new to the school or area, and I am really sorry not to be able to host this event due to the current situation with Covid-19.

We are however, delighted to invite you to our Virtual Open Evening, which you can find on <https://www.wellswayschool.com/virtual-open-evening>. Our staff and students really wanted you to have a flavour of all aspects of life at Wellsway and have created a series of short videos that we hope you'll agree capture what makes Wellsway such a special place to learn and work at.

Wellsway is a high performing school; consistently our progress and attainment at Key Stage 4 is amongst the best in the region: in 2020 over 83% of our students left with a good pass in English and maths and 62% achieved a strong pass (Grade 5 or better) in both English and maths. In 2019 63% of our girls achieved a strong pass in both English & maths, this pass rate was the highest of any BaNES school. We are especially proud of how we challenge and support all students in our care and that whilst being fully inclusive and supporting all to achieve, nearly a third of GCSE grades are at Grade 7 or better (equivalent to old letter grade A), and almost 40% of A Levels were at grade A or better, with students achieving the grades to secure their places at Oxbridge, Dentistry and Veterinary Science.

School is about so much more, however, than exam results and we are equally as pleased with our pastoral care, transition programmes and the vast range of clubs and activities which improve and enrich the experience of being at Wellsway. Under normal circumstances, the vast majority of our students participate in an extra-curricular activity of some description, including sports teams and performing arts productions, and many achieve recognised qualifications, which we are continuing with despite the current restrictions. A particular success in recent years has been the launch of Duke of Edinburgh Bronze award, now in its third year, with over 90 Year 9 students being involved each year and many more going on to complete their Silver and Gold.

The Virtual Open Evening aims to give you a flavour of what life is like here at Wellsway – until we are able to welcome you in person – and I hope you will be able to see why I am so proud to be Principal of Wellsway with such fantastic staff who work tirelessly to develop confident, respectful and successful young people.

Yours faithfully



Mr M Woodville  
Principal