



# CHELTENHAM BOURNSIDE SCHOOL

WARDEN HILL ROAD  
CHELTENHAM  
GL51 3EF

School 01242 235555  
Sixth Form Centre 01242 229511  
hello@bournside.gloucs.sch.uk  
www.bournside.gloucs.sch.uk

**HEADTEACHER**  
Mr S Jefferies BA Hons MEd

8 April, 2022

## A warm welcome to Cheltenham Bournside School

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am delighted that your child will be joining us in September.

My children are adults now, studying at university, but I vividly remember their first day at “big school”. Excitement about the new subjects they’d be studying, worries over how to tie their tie, eagerly anticipating the clubs and activities they’d be able to join, first day nerves about finding their friends but looking forward to the opportunity of making new ones. As a parent, I know this is a big step for you and your family.

Of course, I see it from the other point of view as well. I know this is the first time some of you will have waved your children off to a secondary school, but we’ve welcomed the new wave of pupils every September for many years. That means we’re used to it: we know what new students will find hard and we know how to make things easier for them. We’ve learned how to comfort those overwhelmed by the change; and we’ve learned how to manage the energy of those overexcited for it!

But what I’ve learned most in twenty-five years of seeing new students join a school is this: the key is communication. That’s why I’m writing to you today. That’s why we’ll invite you in to our school during transition week and why we’ll keep in touch with you over the summer. You’ll find all of the information you’ll need on our website, and in particular, on the pages dedicated to new Year 7 students. However, we know that sometimes you need to speak to someone: perhaps you have a particular question that’s not covered on our website, perhaps the issues are too complex for an email, perhaps you just need the reassurance that comes from a face to face conversation. So, please do get in touch with us. We can do our job – of caring for and educating your child - much better if you keep in touch and work in partnership with us, not just in the next few months before September, but throughout your child’s time at school.

We’re really looking forward to meeting you and welcoming your child to the community of Cheltenham Bournside School.

Yours faithfully,

Steve Jefferies  
**Headteacher**

**Empowering lives through learning**