During the summer holidays, we offered a Summer Transition School for our incoming Year 7's. On this week, we offered a combination of academic, technology and sporting activities, giving all students an opportunity to take part in a variety of areas, showing their enthusiasm and talents. The Summer School gave the students the chance to become comfortable in our secondary environment; meeting staff, making new friends, familiarising themselves with the school layout and get a head start into our rules, routines, and expectations.

Each day followed a structured plan, mirroring as best a normal day in the life of St Thomas More, albeit in a more casual and relaxed way, with 4 different sessions and a themed assembly to finish the day.

As a school, we ensured that we had a broad range of staff with us during the week, not only able to put on the timetable sessions, but also providing SEND, Pastoral and Academic Mentor support. The students all ate lunch together in our canteen on a daily basis, along with having their own time during the lunch break to socialise, arrange their own games, build social skills and replicate what a normal lunchtime entails.

Time with the students, their time with our staff and liaising with parents hopefully has given us all the opportunity to begin to build the vital relationships as the boys start their secondary journeys with us at St Thomas More.

Given the upheaval caused by COVID over the past two academic years, being able to offer a 5 day Transition programme has hugely benefitted the students, staff and parents, this has been seen during the first few weeks of term and long may that continue.'

The summer school cost £18,164 to run, the majority of the cost was for staffing, both teachers and support staff. We also provided a lunch each day for all students that attended. Other costs were for equipment for students and additional cleaning.

Total Funding £18,164
Staff Costs £12,307
Catering £1,857
Other Costs £4,000