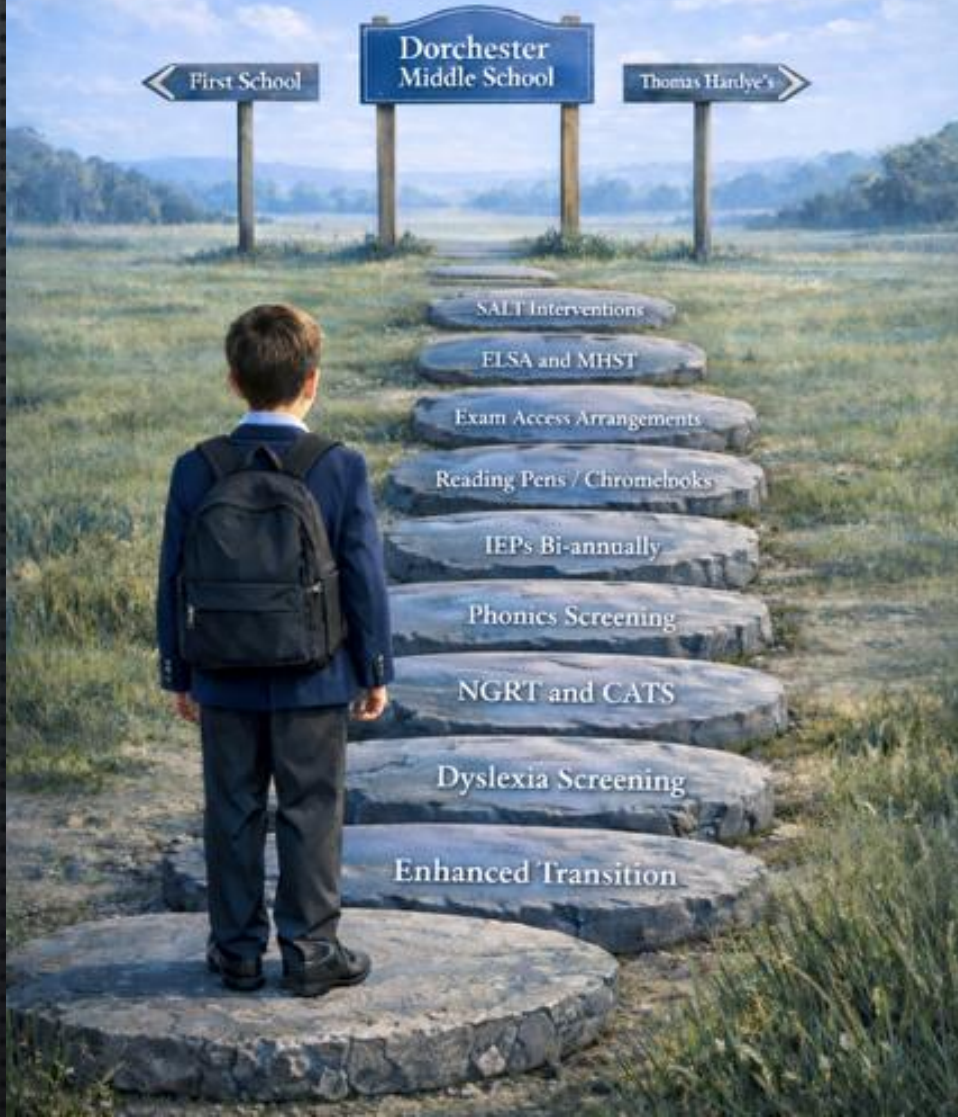




THE JOURNEY OF A WESSEX CHILD

DORCHESTER MIDDLE SCHOOL

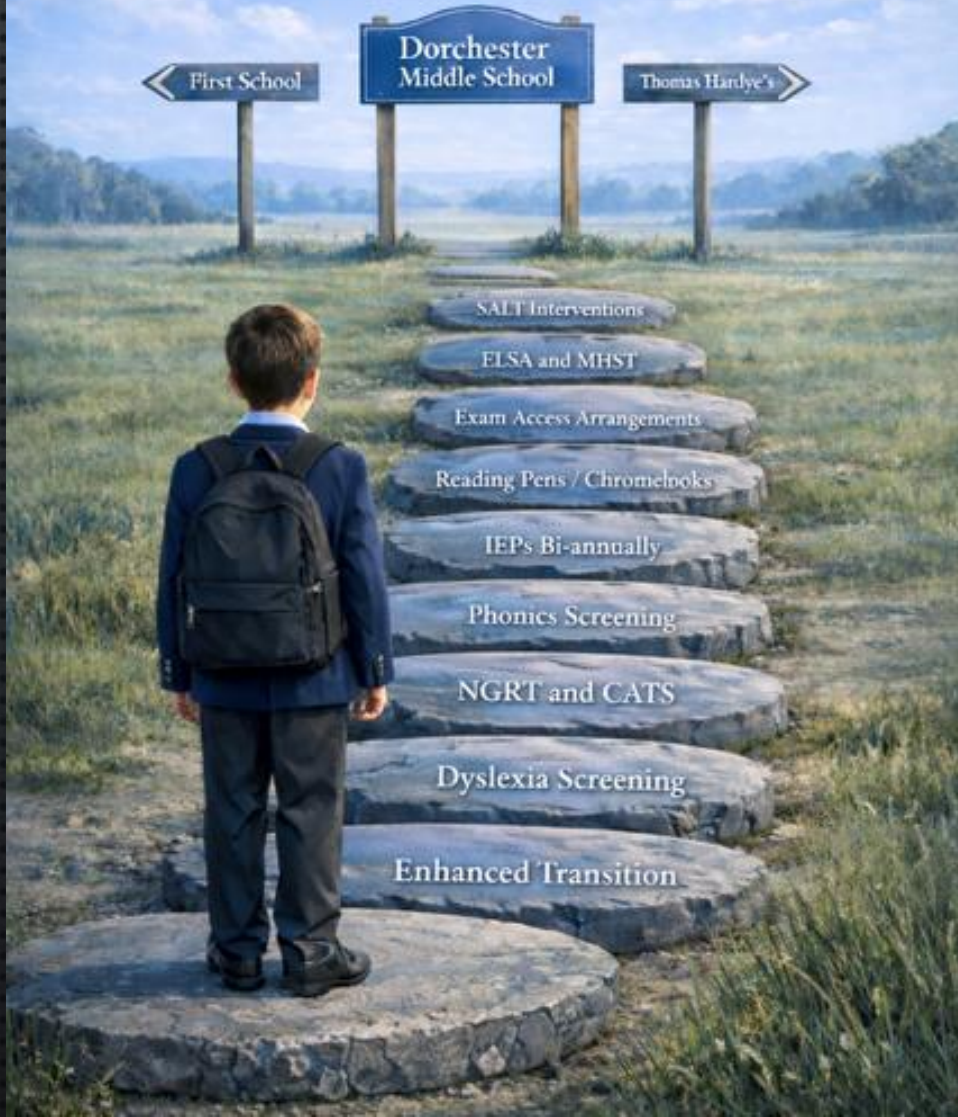
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AT DMS WE WORK TO ENSURE THAT ALL OUR CHILDREN WITH SEND ARE SUPPORTED TO ACCESS LEARNING AND BE AS SUCCESSFUL AS THEIR PEERS.

CLICK A STEPPING STONE TO FIND OUT MORE...

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Enhanced Transition

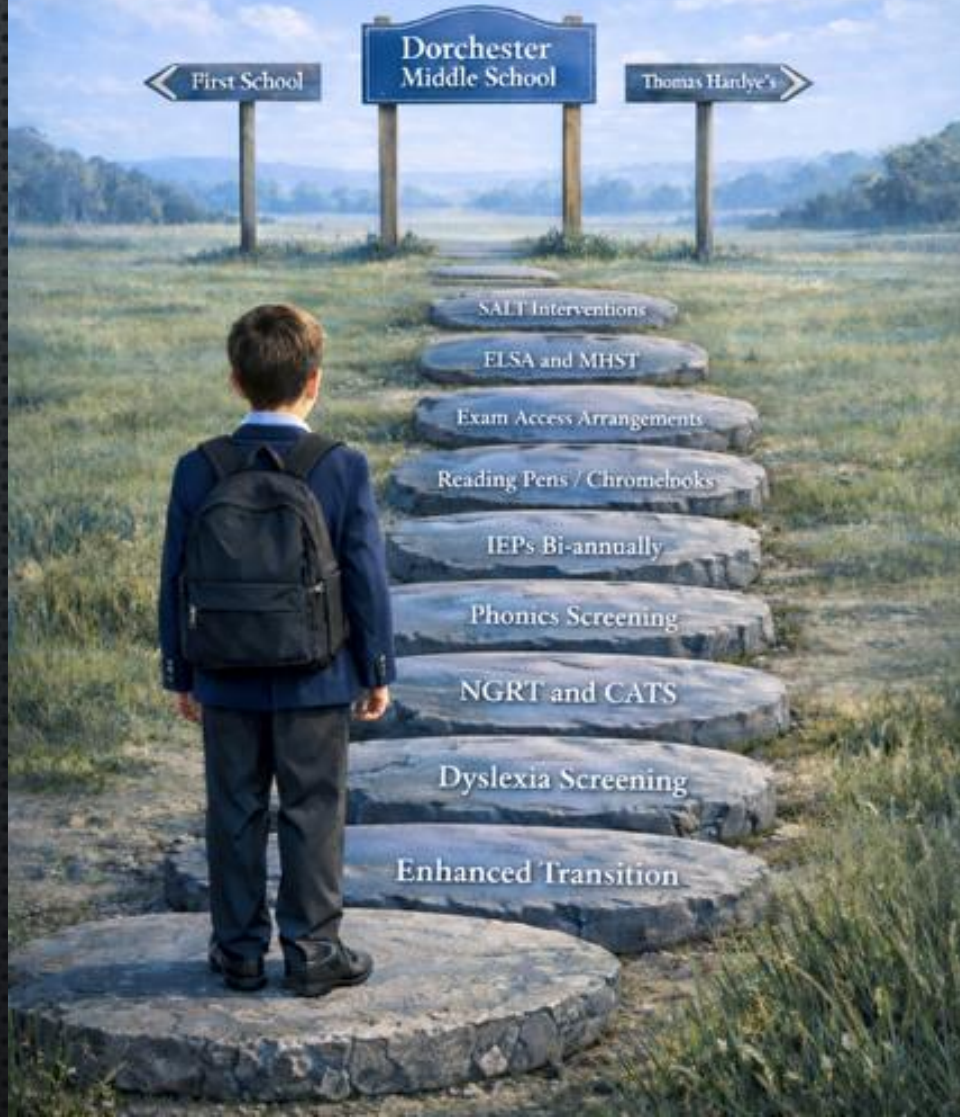
Whether you are starting your journey with us in Year 5 or leaving us in Year 8 we work in partnership with our feeder schools to make sure your child has all the support they need for the next steps. This includes;

- Extra visits to the school;
- handing over of all EHCPs, IEPs and support plans;
- meetings with teachers and the SENDCO, so that their support from the first day is as seamless as possible.

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Dyslexia Screening

One in ten people are thought to have dyslexia or dyslexic traits, many undiagnosed or recognised.

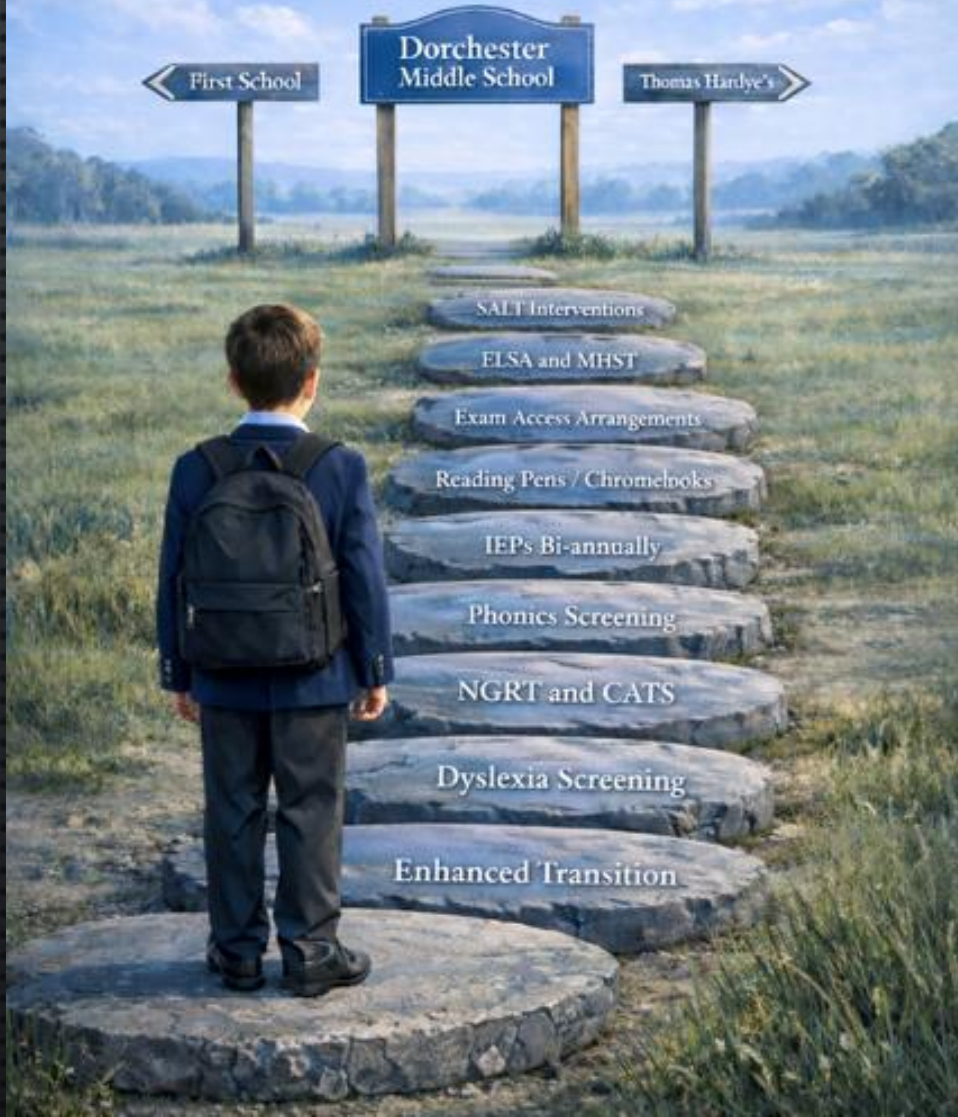
On starting at DMS all students will undergo a dyslexia screen to help us determine any underlying support needs.

We share these results with parents and inform you of any additional support we may then feel necessary to put in place to support your child.

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NGRT and CAT Tests

All students will have an NGRT test and CATS tests in Year 5, 7 and 8.

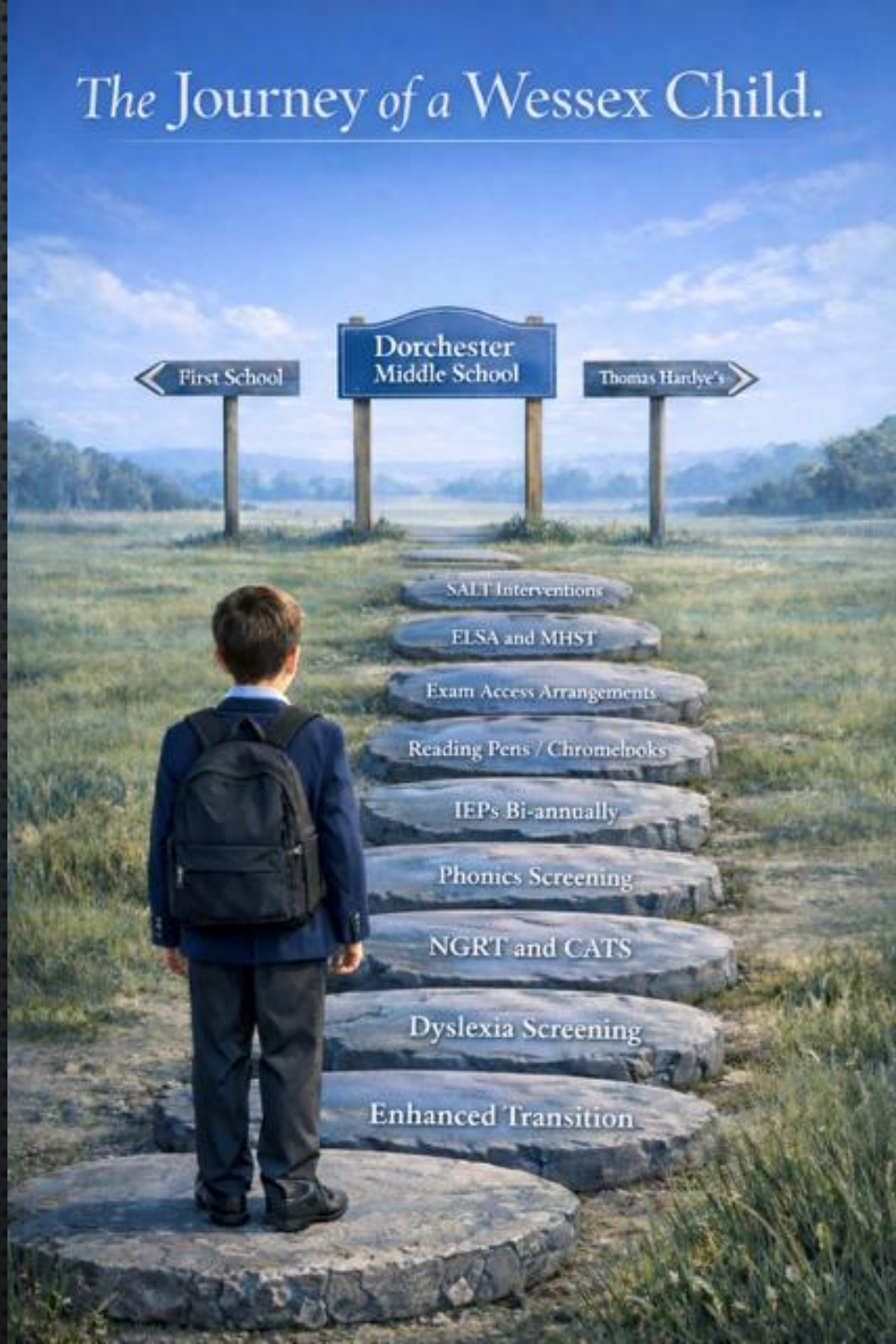
NGRT tests tell us your child's reading age, we track this through school to make sure that they are making progress in reading and get all the support in place quickly, if needed.

CAT tests measure a children's cognitive abilities and their skills in how to learn. Again knowing this helps us to make adaptations to learning and make sure all support is in place to help a child thrive whilst with us and moving onto Upper School

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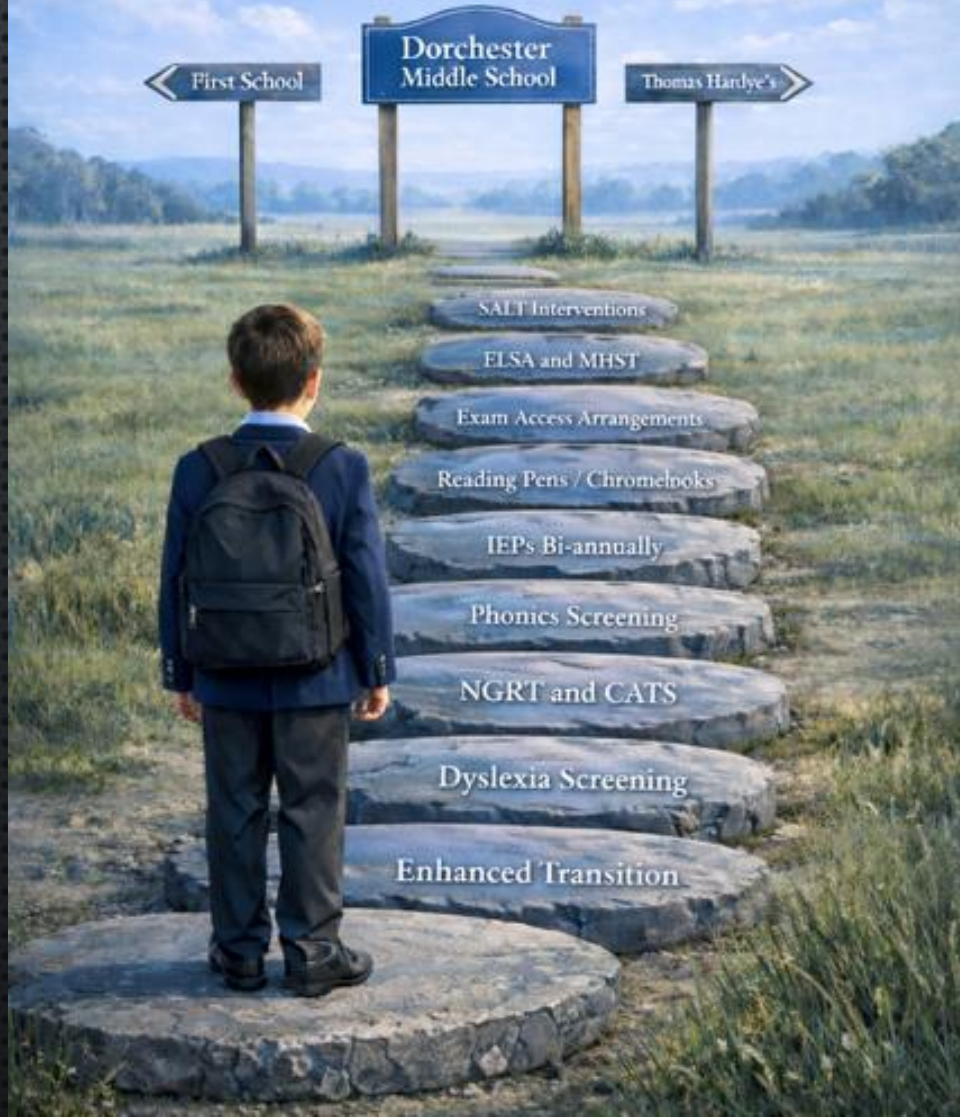
Phonics Screening

We use Read Write Inc Fresh Start to assess your child's skills in reading. This screen is completed as soon as children start with us and supports us to put an intervention in place within the first 2 weeks of arrival if they are struggling with the basics of reading and word identification. Reading is the most important skill in your child being able to access their learning independently - this helps us to support them as soon as possible so that the gap in learning does not grow too wide, allowing us to make the right adaptations in class and liaise with external professionals if greater support is needed.

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IEP's Bi-Annually

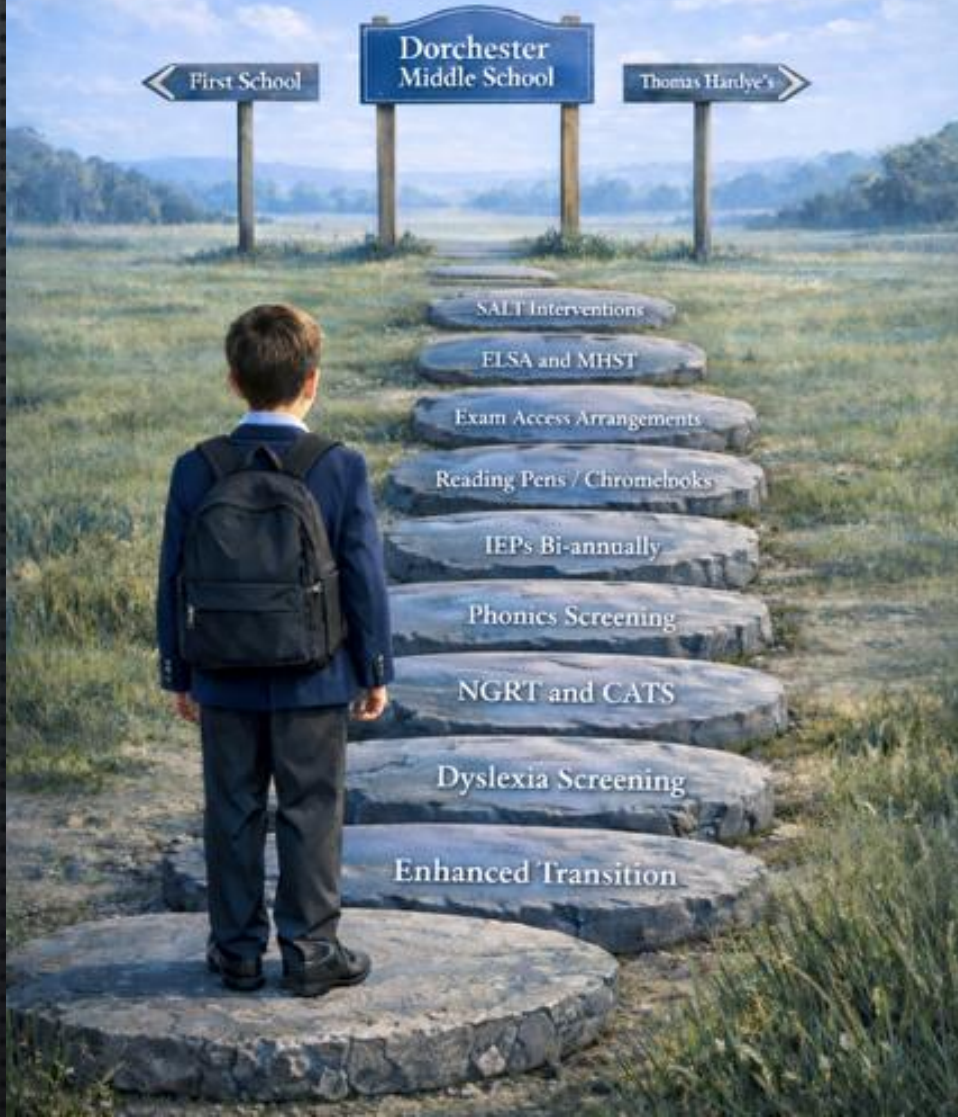
All students on our SEND register will have Individual Education Plans written bi annually. As your child starts in Year 5 we do these after the first half term so we have time to get to know you child and their skills and challenges.

These focus on the core learning or SEMH needs and are used across the school to ensure that all staff are supporting your child consistently to make progress. We share these with parents and students so we can work together and make use the goals are

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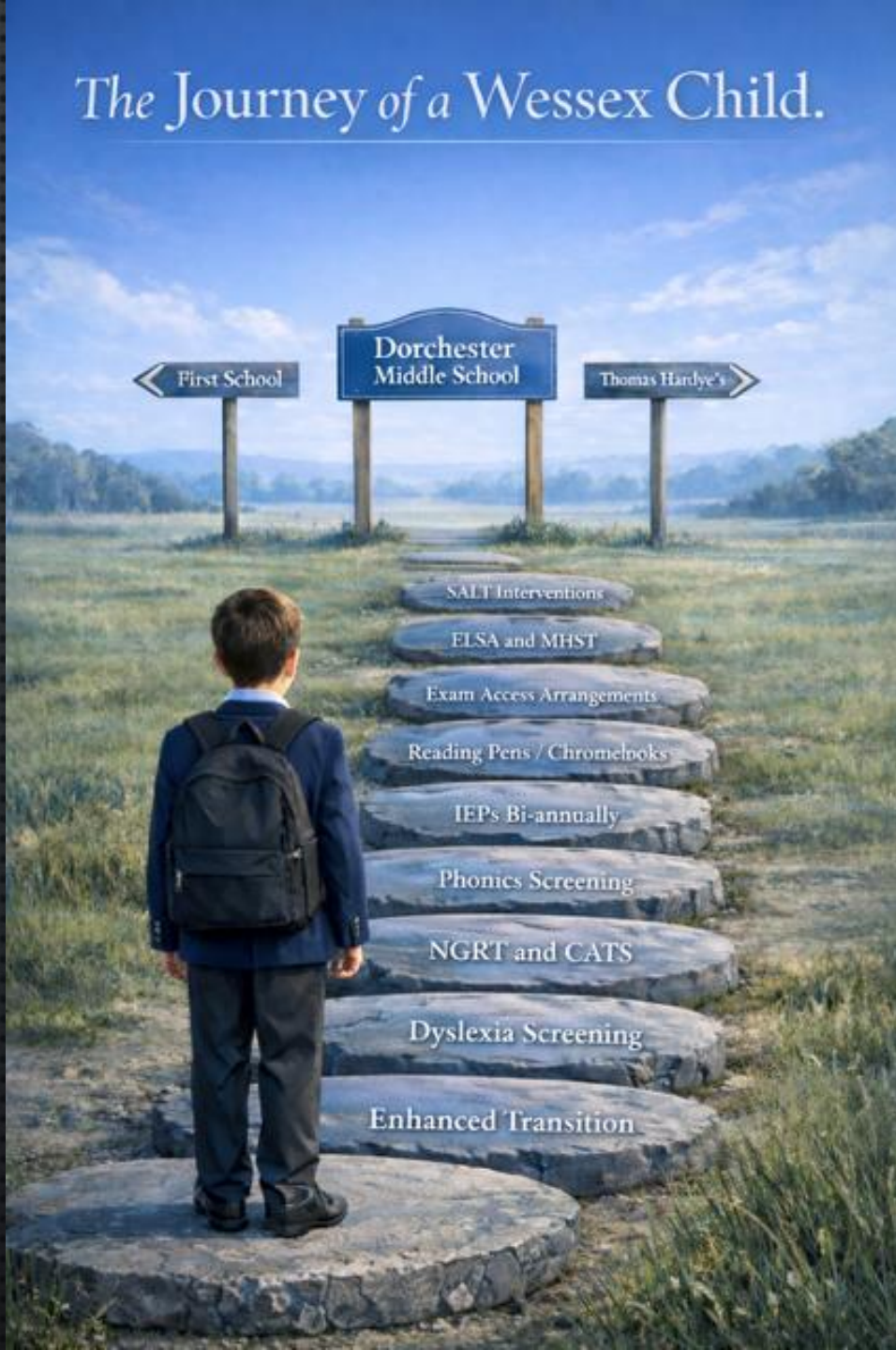
Reading Pens / Chromebooks

As your child progresses through their time with us at DMS we will continually review how they are accessing and attaining across the curriculum. In some incidences we will use technology to support your child and remove barriers to learning.

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Exam Access Arrangements

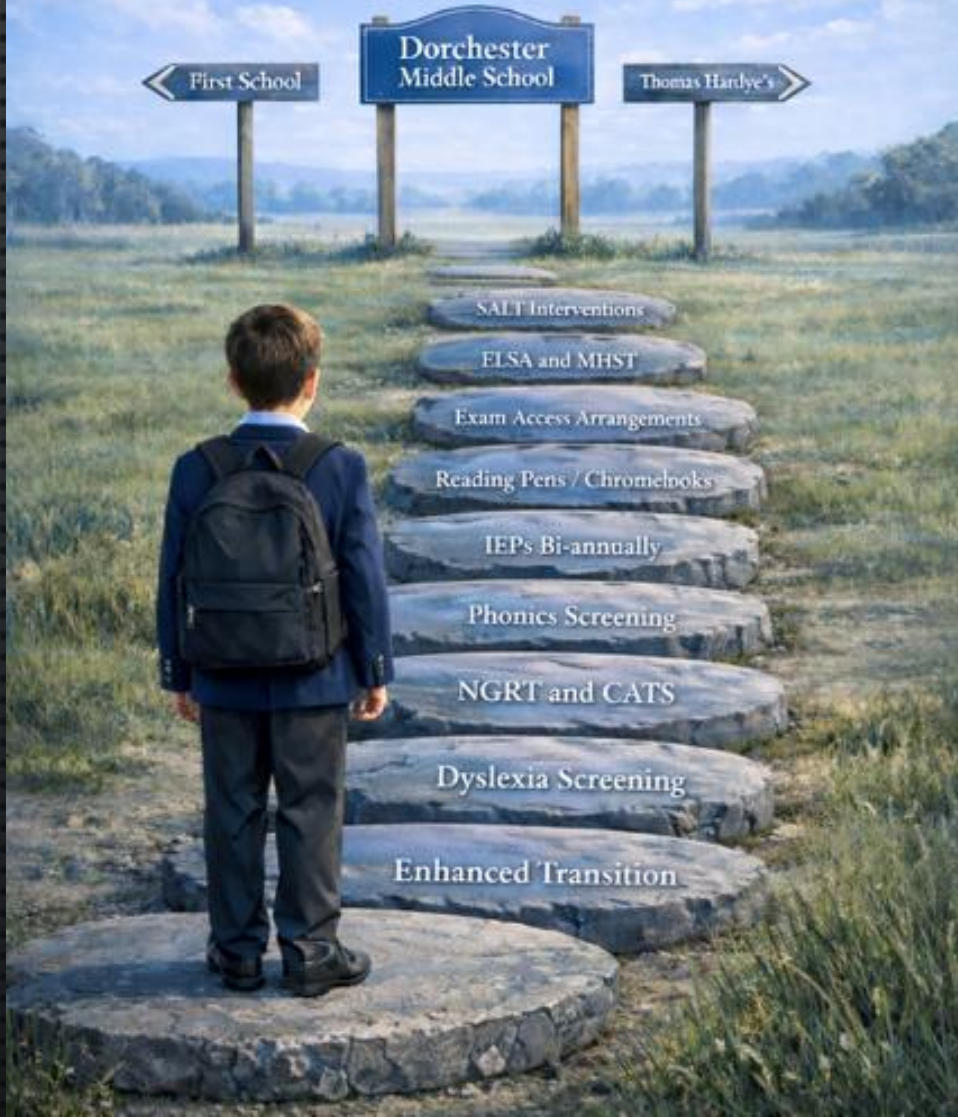
Throughout their time at DMS we will look at supporting access arrangements to support them to access formal testing or key tests in their year group. In Year 5 and 6 we use these access arrangements to support the evidence for access arrangements for SATS in the Year 6 summer term. In Year 8 we will share these arrangements with the upper school on transition so they support evidence for your child's GCSEs. These arrangements can include;

- Working in a smaller room
- Additional time in the test
- Having a reader and/or scribe
- Adaption to test material – such as enlarged or on buff paper

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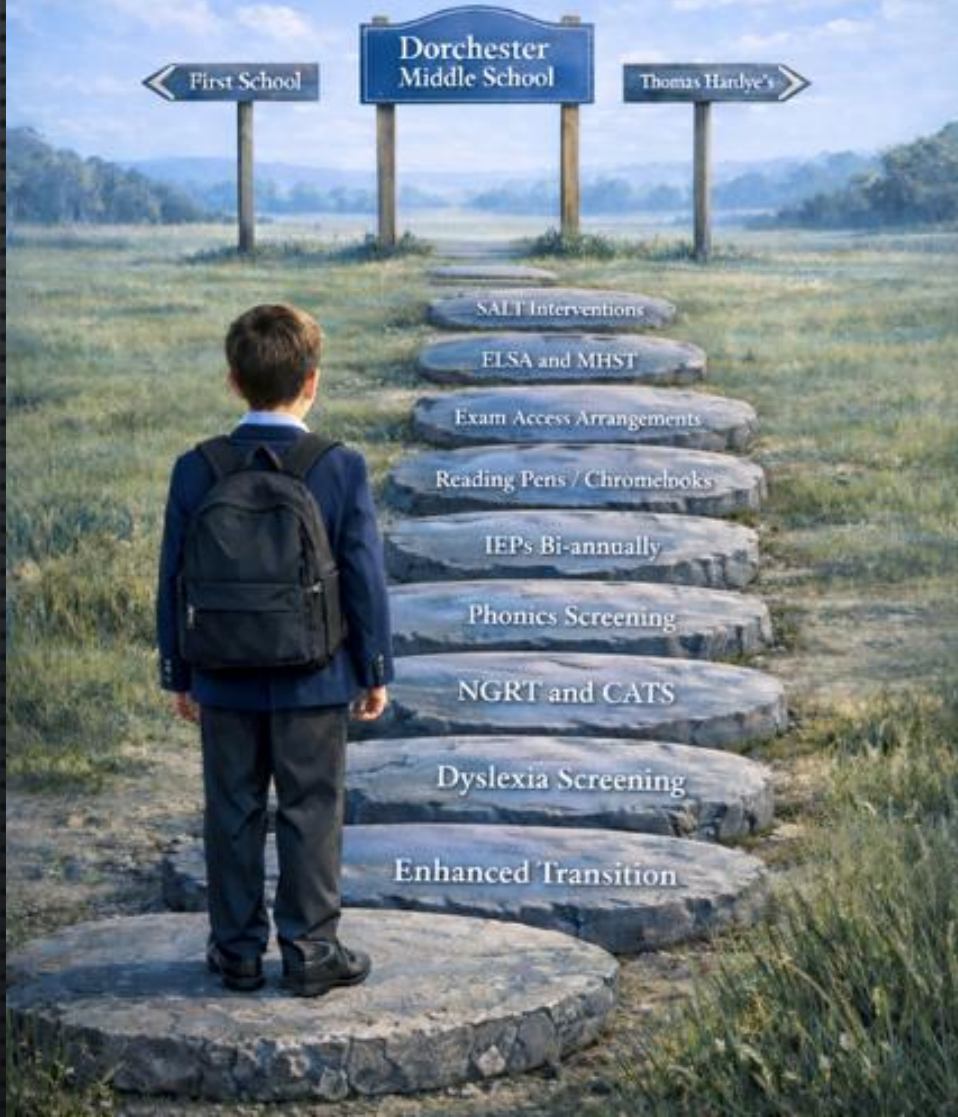
ELSA and MHST

We recognize that there may be times that your child may need additional support to manage their own mental wellbeing. At DMS trained ELSA workers that can offer emotional literacy interventions. We also work in close partnership with the Mental Health in Schools team who deliver short term CBT to support your child.

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SALT Intervention

At DMS offer Speech and Language support from trained members of staff. This may include;

Targeted short term group interventions

1-1 support out of the classroom working on a specific SAL program

In class support to help translate learning

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