

**TIME FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL...**

**ALL  
YOU NEED  
TO  
KNOW**



## Some of your transition questions answered by our Year 7s



### What are the school rules?

**Charlie Anuzis** - Follow the 5Ps:

**Present** - arrive at school every day, unless there is a good reason you can't. And that doesn't mean just be at school that means paying great attention to your lessons and being tuned in, not spaced out.

**Punctuality** - be on time for your lessons and the start of the day. If you are late, it could mean that you have to serve a detention as a punishment.

**Prepared** - make sure you're in full uniform and have the correct equipment for the day ahead of you.

**Polite** - treat each other with good respect to make the world a better place.

**Proud** - take pride in everything you do at Shirebrook Academy; being a proud member can make yourself proud of your abilities!

**Tamara Marciniak** - You get achievement points for meeting the 5Ps.

**Jack Barksby** - Always have your shirt tucked in.

**Libby Poynton** - If you forget a piece of equipment (ruler, pen pencil, journal, reading book) you may get a detention.

**Lillie Hunt** - Be polite, have all the correct equipment, wear all the correct uniform.

### Where can I go if I need support?

**Chloe Eato** - Remember us in year 7 will help you and I'm sure the other years will too and hopefully you will remember some of us from primary!

**Harvey Staley** - If you need help of anything there is a student reception, team councils and many others who would like to help you out.

**Thomas Bispham** - If you need something all you need to do is ask and don't be scared because you don't want to ask it's not scary just do it.

**Tamara Marciniak** - We have an amazing pastoral leader team you can refer to that will help you with anything

**Logan Spalding** - If you are upset or sad when inside school, there are pastoral team on the humanities bridge.

**Jennifer McIntyre** - If you need to talk to someone about anything, you can go to the pastoral leaders and they deal with your problems and they are very kind too.



## What will my lessons be like?

**Oliver Waterhouse** - It will be really fun because there are lots of new lessons that you probably haven't done in primary like technology (food, woodwork, graphics and textiles) and there are amazing science experiments.

**Kori Baker Batchelor** - You may be thinking that your lessons are going to be boring to be completely honest that is what I thought before I came up but I actually enjoy all of my lessons even the ones that I didn't like in primary school like art I still enjoyed it.

**Ruddie Macdonald** - You get to do Modern Foreign Languages like Spanish and French. There is Music, Science, PE, Drama, English, PD, Art, Humanities, Computing and Maths.

**Thomas Phillips** - In primary you only have one class that you do everything in but in secondary you have different classrooms for different things, for this there are older people that can help you by telling you where certain classes are.

**Lillie Hunt** - No matter whether I do something right or wrong in my lessons I am always allowed to try again.

**Jennifer McIntyre** - If the teacher is impressed with how you are doing, or if you are having a go at most stuff e.g. if you don't know something but they know you are trying your best, or if you are putting your hand up constantly you can get achievement points.

### **Tillie-J Morton-**

**Maths** - My maths teacher is Mr Stennett. He is very helpful when you're stuck on a question and is very good at teaching as well as all the other teachers. There is no need to be scared because if you get stuck or need help they will help you and also if you get a question wrong it's ok.

**English** - You learn a lot in English for example: grammar, spellings, how to write poems and stories, do paragraphs properly and all together learn things you've learnt but in more detail.

**Science** - Science is very fun because you get to do experiments, also it's fun because you learn a lot more about things that you probably didn't know for example the names of the bones in your body and about chemicals.

**PE** - There are 4 changing rooms (2 for girls 2 for boys). You learn how to keep fit and healthy and also teaches you about the names of your muscles and a lot of other things. There are 2 different sets in PE the top set and bottom set.

**Languages** (French and Spanish) - You don't have to be nervous in the French and Spanish classes just because it's a different language; it's very simple to learn and if you get stuck the teachers will help you understand the word or sentence that you're trying to pronounce or write. It's very fun learning different languages because it's something different to learn about. Also you learn a lot as well.

**DT** (design and technology) - In DT we do a lot of things like cooking, textiles, woodworks and Cooking. They are all interesting and fun.

## What is it like at lunchtime?

**Ella Murcott** - At lunch everyone goes at the same time. Also if you want a sandwich at lunch but don't want to wait in a long line you can order a grab and go at break or before school.

**Lewis Worthington** - The food is amazing, there is good variety.

**Josh Kirk** - Break and lunch this is most people's favourite part of the day. Break is fifteen minutes long and lunch is forty minutes long. You have multiple places for lunch to choose your food and a few areas to go and sit with your friends to eat your lunch. Other places you can go during these breaks are the library you can go on the computers or read a book or sometimes there is a film on and the gym equipment if you enjoy fitness and exercise. There is something for everyone.

## Will I make new friends?

**Dawid Kandyba** - Don't be shy to talk to people, you can meet a new friend.

**Olivia Birch** - All you have to do is be yourself and who you truly are. This way you will be able to create new friends and get to meet others.

**Abigail Holmes** - Try to make lots of new friends. Students arrive in year seven from many different schools in the area so it is likely you will not have met some of your new form mates before.

## How can I prepare myself?

**Olivia Birch** - Make sure your head is always in a positive mind-set and you can achieve anything.

**Dawid Kandyba** - Be prepared to be in different classes from your friends.

**Tyler Spalding** - When you start year 7 it will be hard but as time passes it will become easier.

**Lexi Pittaway** - Make sure you have at least 8 hours of sleep so you can be ready for the next day and make sure the brain has enough power as more sleep is making the day more successful.

**Natalia KC** - It may seem scary and a big struggle, but to be successful you have to push through the struggles. There may be a lot of tests but they're to help you and see your average score of how well you do in your classes. There is nothing to worry about, just keep believing and never give up!

**Alfie Cheeseman** - Make sure you know the route to school, especially if you are walking, you can use the top and bottom entrance.

**Evie Oscroft** - Make sure your bag is a good size, because some days you have to bring your PE kit and not all teachers save your books, you will have to carry them around.

**Alfie Iddon** - Try to get your school bag ready the night before, for the next day.

**Jennifer McIntyre** - I have got a key tip for you that will help you throughout the years, if you are kind and respectful to the teachers they will be kind and respectful back.

**Ben Bradbury** - Get to know the people in your lessons you will be with them for the majority of the year and it really helps boost your confidence when you know the people around you.

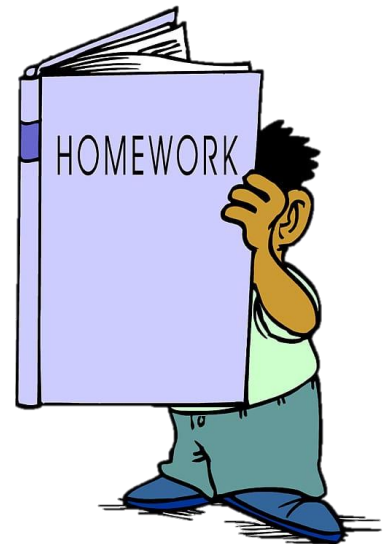
## Homework? Help!

**John Shelton** - You always need to hand your homework in on time, if you don't know a question then go and find your teacher for help

**Kevin Harvey** - Do your homework straight away so you don't forget.

**Kori Baker Batchelor** - You are probably thinking that you are going to get piles and piles of homework if you are then you are wrong you will probably get a few pieces a week.

**Josh Kirk** - Everyone worries about homework and not getting it in on time and whether you will understand it when you get home, personally I do it the night it is set that way if I don't get it I have time to talk to the teacher and ask for help.



## What activities can I get involved in?

**Jemma Hook** - The things I hope you will like about Shirebrook is; if you are a sporty person, we have a huge football field and a long running track, there are also three areas called the MUGA that you can play on at breaks and lunch times, we normally go on the MUGA when doing PE. If you are more of a reading person there is a library at the end of the atrium steps.

**Abigail Holmes** - Join in with the after school activities, you can make more friends, represent the school and earn achievement points. Put yourself forward for class council, the junior leadership team (JLT) or sports leader. I found being a member of the JLT a privilege and very rewarding as you get to be involved with school decisions, organise school activities, attend meetings and get to represent your year and the school!

**Tamara Marciniak** - There are a lot of trips eg: Paris, Spain, Berlin Museums, and even sport trips.

**Amelia Cantrell** - At Shirebrook Academy, there are plenty of extracurricular activities, so it shouldn't be difficult to find one you will enjoy. I would definitely recommend going to one as it can teach you a new skill, help with school and help you to find friends with similar interests to you.



## Will I get lost?

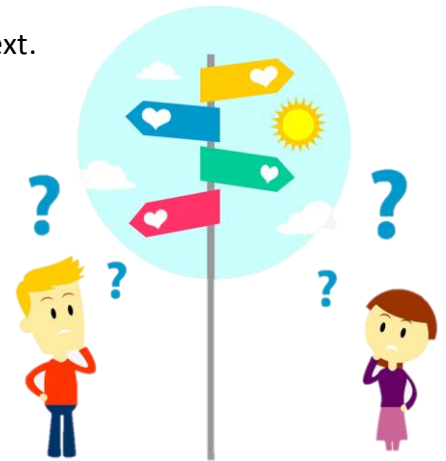
**Brandon Sherwood** - Even though it is a huge building it is a lot easier to find your way through than you would think, if you look at the walls there is a picture of what the area is like so with humanities there is a picture of the world for geography.

**Daisy Mae Dexter** - When I first came up to the academy, I thought that I would never find my way round because it is that big, but don't be worried, you'll soon get used to it.

**Logan Spalding** - Most people in the academy carry their time table with them, but if you do lose it, if you have a phone and have a picture, most people set it as their background to remember what class is next.

**Chloe Eato** - It may look big but trust me it's not scary. I was very quiet and very unsure, but here I am.... smashing it! 😊

**Brandon Cox** - Don't get scared if you get lost because you are welcome to ask anyone where to go and where your class is.



## Will I like it at the academy?

**Tyler Spalding** - I absolutely love being at Shirebrook academy and I hope all you year 6's love the academy as much as I do!

**Josh Kirk** - It's nothing to worry about if anything it's fantastic going into year 7 all the new people you meet students and teachers. The new friendships you will make too. Primary school would have made your foundations so it would have been your basic learning. Now it is time to show how good you can be with all the different subjects we have.

**Ella Murcott** - If Covid 19 has taught me anything it is to treasure my time at school so please treasure it or you will regret it! Don't forget to have fun!

**Tamara Marciniak** - Welcome year sixes, if you are moving to Shirebrook Academy CONGRATULATIONS! You have chosen the school that will give you larger learning opportunities.

**Emily Rowland** - I love Shirebrook Academy because everyone accepts you for who you are. The teachers are encouraging and have helped me every step of the way. My form tutor is helpful and goes an extra mile in supporting me at the start of every day. I love how the Academy introduces opportunities to meet new friends.

**Isla Simpson** - Joining Shirebrook Academy has taught me a lot. I've made many new friends and some amazing memories.



# **MORE FANTASTIC EXPERIENCES**

## **and advice from our Year 7's**

During transition up to the academy I absolutely loved it! It felt like I'd been there forever. From the start of the 6 weeks holidays I had my school bag and my uniform hung up ready! I couldn't wait to get started.



**Don't be scared**  
**Be yourself**  
**Be happy**  
**Meet with your friends at breaks**  
**Talk to people you don't know to make new friends**  
**Complete your homework when you get it!**  
**Be kind .... others may be feeling nervous like you!**

### **My Experiences:**

Join in the with school activities... I had trials in the school football team and got in and captained every game we had against different schools.

I also took part in other activities out of school.

The things/subjects I enjoyed the most are Spanish and French lessons as the teachers made them fun.

All the teachers were nice and so were all the other students.

I hope you have a similar experience to mine!

**From Year 7 student Finnlee Darrington**



# HOW TO SURVIVE YEAR 7

By Isabel Vale 7DR

## What Is this for?

- To help you with starting secondary school
- To answer any questions, you may have
- To show you that secondary school isn't scary



## Transition

- Transition is the 2-week period where you get to try being a Year 7. The first 2 days are all about learning your way around and meeting your form. For the rest of transition, you get to try year 7 lessons with your form.

## What is a form

- A form is a group of around 30 students. There are 6 forms in each year. Your form meets up for 25 minutes each morning to discuss current issues and to do registration. You will also have a form tutor to discuss any issues you may have.

## Times of The School Day

08:45 – 09.10	Registration
09.10 – 10.00	Period 1
10.00 – 10.50	Period 2
10.50 – 11.05	Break
11.05 – 11.55	Period 3
11.55 – 12.45	Period 4
12.45 – 1:25	Lunch
1:25 – 2:20	Period 5
2:20- 3:10	Period 6





## Pastoral Leaders

The Y7 Pastoral leaders are Miss Taylor and Mr Booker. You can talk to them about any problems you may have. They can be found on the humanities bridge.

## Achievement

At the academy, good behaviour is rewarded well. You can gain an achievement point, or work towards your Shirebrook Stars Award. For this, you get a certificate and a pin badge



## Behaviour

We don't need to talk that much about behaviour consequences, as you shouldn't really need to find out!

All you need to know is that there are behaviour points for when you are bad, but you usually get a warning first.

## Food

The food at the Academy is AWESOME!

There are so many different options, and you can find them all in Maz's Place.

## Transport

To get to and from school, you can either find your own way (e.g. Car, Walk, Scooter) or you can get the school bus. There are buses from Langwith, Model Village and New Houghton before and after school. You will receive a bus timetable in your transition pack.

## Banned Objects

Phones during lessons  
*(you can use them at break times)*  
Energy drinks  
Fidget spinners



## Uniform rules:

ALL skirts must be below the knees  
No make up  
Shirts must be tucked in  
No large earrings, only studs  
*If you break these rules, you will receive a behaviour point on SIMS!*



## Equipment

Each day, you must bring:

- Journal
- Pen (black or blue)
- Pencil
- Ruler
- Rubber
- Pencil case
- Backpack
- Books for the lessons you have that day
- Reading book
- ID/Dinner card



*If you don't have these, you will get a behaviour point on SIMS*





Going to secondary school can be hard because you are splitting up from your primary friends, having more lessons and more different classrooms and teachers. You will get over it because as well as having bad things to expect there are always good things to look forward to like making new friends, getting to explore a new school, going on different school trips and loads more things. So, in this letter I am going to be telling you some advice for year 7.

- **Try and not be late for classes because it is the first year, so you need to become familiar with all your classes.**
- **Always do your homework on time because we need homework so it can test us on things we have already learned in class.**
- **Do not be scared to ask anyone for advice on anything whether it be other pupils or teachers.**
- **Make sure you always be sensible in classes because it is your first year you must listen all the time.**
- **Always treat others with respect remember always treat others how you want to be treated.**
- **Show that you want to be in lessons that you are ready to learn, because if you come in to lesson and then pay no attention to the teacher it seems like you don't want to be there.**
- **Try and make new friends you can still hang around with people from your primary but make other friends from other schools because you are not always in the same lessons as your friends so make new friends in your classes.**
- **Just be yourself do not think that you must act different because you are in secondary school do not think that you need to change to fit in because you do not. Just be yourself you do not need to change.**
- **Always remember all your equipment because that is the school rules so if one day you have not got the right equipment you will get a behaviour point.**
- **You have got this!**

**GOOD LUCK!**



# FANTASTIC TOP TIPS

BY KORNELIA KANDYBA

- Follow the conveniently placed signs for guidance as to what part of the school you are in e.g. if you are looking for art find the sign with the paint palette.
- Know that it is 100% ok to be nervous because it is very unlikely you won't be because of the larger environment, new people and subjects.
- Reunite with primary school friends at school after all it's easier to deal with the stress together. Right?
- Even though you already are with your friends, still try and make new ones to gain confidence and expand your friend group.
- Don't be afraid of sharing answers in class it boosts morale and might share info people didn't know which is always helpful!
- Although at first teachers may seem scary you will soon learn that that is not true so don't believe the stereotypes.
- Get involved in extracurricular activities this also boosts morale, gives you something fun to do and gets you a signature for an award.
- Don't believe everything you hear most people aren't scary although many might push past you in a corridor.
- Don't be afraid of what's new your timetable is very helpful and just because everything changed doesn't mean that the world is going to end.
- Be yourself, it isn't worth it trying to fit into a group and being yourself can be praised and rewarded!



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