

Dear year 6 student,

Starting year 7 can be worrying but exiting, from being the oldest in the school and then becoming the youngest. From knowing where everything is too not knowing where anything is. I understand this can be nerve-racking however, there is an upside. You will meet a lot of new friends and have different teachers in every class it is a great new experience.

Do not worry about not knowing where anything is, on the first day there will be a teacher to take you and your tutor to your classroom that you go to first everyday. Don't worry about being late to class for the first week or 2 because teachers understand you will not know where anything is. You can't get lost that easily since your teacher gives you a timetable which tells you what class you have and what room number you need to find and a map to find your way around the school. There are 4 buildings, 2 of the building are classrooms called C and D block. One of the other buildings is called the sports hall where you do PE if its raining. The other building is... The Lunch Hall! This is where you go for lunch and you can have your lunch there.

In my opinion, the secondary school is so much better than the Primary school food and there are so many more different options. Some are vegan and vegetarian options for people and other options for others. You scan your thumb-print to pay for your lunch instead of just taking it. You can sit with your friends and have fun! Don't worry about not being in the same tutor group as some of your friends as you will make more friends in you tutor group and still have old friend with you! All the teachers at BFS are really kind and encourage you to do your best in every subject.

I hope this letter has been helpful to you and to help you understand what BFS is really like. BFS has lots of kind and caring people that can help you get to your class on time. BFS is a safe place to learn and its a wonderful new experience

Sincerely Future year 8!

- Dear Year 6,
- I am writing this to you because I want to make sure that you understand the system of BFS.

- Maths
- Geography
- English
- PE
- RE (religious education)
- Art
- French
- Spanish
- DT (design technology)
- Drama
- Music
- Science
- History
- Computer Science

- Break
- Lunch
- Cafeteria (you can buy snacks at break, also an awesome finger print system)

- PE is also fun sometimes you can even go to greenway.

- At this school there are many kind people and not anything to fear about.
- Food Tech DT was the most fun out of wood work, textiles and Graphic Design
- PE is also very fun because they have a variety of sports to do. I ~~am~~ guarantee some of the sport will leave you bored

To Year 6,

Starting Secondary and year 7 is a big step but don't worry it is not a scary or difficult one- it is quite fun really! I am writing this as an introduction to life at BFS and hopefully to ease your nerves a bit too.

It may seem like a massive school but don't worry, you won't get lost. Around the school there are many teachers that can help you around and, in your planner, there is a map to help you- which I personally didn't use very much. If you are looking for CF02 for example that would be C block, First floor, classroom 2. Personally, it took me about a week or 2 to find my way around.

All the lessons are inclusive and you always learn something new. My favorite lessons are Drama, English and PE. Although other lessons are fun too. You will soon find your passion. Tutor time is also very good in my opinion -especially votes for schools as you get a chance to learn about the world, Issues and vote.

BFS is very inclusive and gives you many opportunities. Remember you are heard and if you have an issue want to talk or anything like that you can speak to a trusted adult, your tutor, head of year, a teacher and we have a great pastoral team here to help you too. AND (big bonus) the food is great and most people are currently obsessed with the cookies (:.

From a 2020-2021
student.

P.S. I thought the older years would be big and mean but they aren't in anyway scary.

Dear Upcoming Year 7s,

You are probably feeling so nervous for the big jump up to secondary school, but when you arrive at school with all your friends around you; it won't feel like such a huge change. Furthermore, if you are feeling worried, there is a great pastoral team who will support no matter what and you can talk to them about anything.

When I first joined, I felt so small compared to all the older years but as the year goes on you begin to fit it. Everyone was in year 7 once and everyone knows what you're going through so just don't stress. Enjoy year 7 because as you get further up the school you have exams to deal with.

Secondary school is different to primary school in many ways: you have different teachers for every subject (most of them are so kind) and it is a lot bigger. However, it gets begins to get easy to find your way around the school and soon you will know it like the back of your hand. But when you first arrive, you get given a map and the one-way system is super helpful because the rooms go in number order so you can just follow the one-way system and eventually, you'll get to your classroom.

This past year the school have introduced a new house system, which you'll win house points for and compete in sports day with them. The houses are named after different parts of Bristol; Ashton (the best house), Durham, Blaise and Canford.

After school, there are lots of opportunities to get involved with sports and extra-curricular activities such as rounders, tennis, athletics, choir and bubble bands, which are all the most fun. Furthermore, there will be more choice next year, for example, netball, football, languages and science clubs so make sure you get involved with them.

I hope you enjoy coming to BFS, everyone is so welcoming and inclusive, and you can always talk to any staff member, your tutor, your head of year (Miss Hammond) or your pastoral manager about anything. Good Luck On Your First Day!

From MB a 2020-2021 Year 7 Student

P.S. THE FOOD IS AMAZING!

Hi year 6,

I am writing this letter to ensure you that year 7 isn't as scary as you might think. BFS is an amazing school and helps you to learn a lot of great things to help you in the future.

When I first joined BFS, the thought of getting lost was definitely on my mind, but it turned out that you will learn your way around the school fairly quickly. On your first day of year 7, the school give you a map to carry around and there are a few more staff around that you can ask to direct or take you to a certain place. As you get to know the school a bit better, you will start noticing the way the room numbers are organized. For example, if you needed to get to DF16, then you go into D block, first floor and room 16.

At BFS, they have a lot of clubs available. Although this year there hasn't been all the clubs open, the school has done their best to keep some available such as tennis, rounders and bubble bands and choir. The school also offers a wide variety of music lesson, ranging from flute to drums.

During year 7, I have enjoyed many lessons that I did not like as much in primary school, such as drama, DT, history and science. This is because you get the opportunity to dive deeper into the lessons and do more practical's. One of the practical's that I most enjoyed doing was making fake snow!

There are lots of mental health services such as pastoral managers, the SLT team, your year leader, your tutor, the school nurse, student services and any other teachers at the school. There is nothing to worry about when making the leap to secondary school and I hope that this letter has encouraged you.

From a 2020-2021 BFS year 7 student.

PS: the food at BFS is extraordinary!

Hey Year 6 !

I writing this letter to make you feel more comfortable at the thought of starting BFS in September. You don't need to worry though because BFS is a great school and every teacher will make you feel welcome in your first few days.

When I joined BFS in Year 7, I found it quite difficult to find my way around the school but it eventually got quite easy to figure it out. Anyway, if you do get stuck, you could always look at the school map or ask a nearby teacher- they will always be there to help.

One of the best things at BFS is the food that they offer. They have a grab and go menu at break time and a vast variety of food at lunch time. My favourites would be the bacon baps and the pepperoni paninis. They are so GOOD.

At BFS, there are lots of extra-curricular sports clubs. There is after school football, rugby, striking and fielding, athletics and many more. They are brilliant because they give you the opportunity to meet new people and have fun.

Finally, in BFS you can learn about many interesting subjects like: art, music, drama, PE, history, maths, science, English, RE, geography, French, Spanish, DT and computer science. There are so many lessons to learn and enjoy.

Good Luck and See you There!

Hi year 6s/ future year 7s,

I am writing this letter to hopefully make you feel more comfortable at the thought of starting at BFS. Secondary school is not as scary as you think. It is actually quite fun. There are lots of opportunities and clubs to get involved with.

When I first started at Bristol Free, I was worried that I would get lost and not be able to find my way around. There is no need to worry about that because you get given a map. On top of that, there is a numbers class system. For example, if the class is CF.02 it is in C block, first floor, classroom 2. Also, for those who are worried about the older kids, they are actually quite nice so you do not need to worry!

My favourite subject at school is PE. I love sport and at BFS there are sports clubs you can do if you want to get involved. All the teachers are really nice in all subjects and you may even have more than one for each subject. They will all support and help you do your best.

Finally, do not worry too much about your tutor class because you will make new friends, that is all part of the journey.

If you are worried about anything please talk to someone you trust about it. At BFS we have an amazing Pastoral team so you can go talk to them about anything.

I hope this letter was helpful! See you next year!

From a 2020–2021-year 7 student

P.S The food at BFS is delicious

Hello Year 6!

I am writing to welcome you to BFS, a school you are going to love!

When I was in Year 6 like you, I was pretty nervous about going to secondary school, especially one as big as BFS. I thought I was going to get lost every day – actually I only got lost once and everyone is so helpful they soon showed me to the right classroom! I quickly realised it was nothing to worry about!

I also worried about making friends, but I started making new ones from the first day. Also, please don't worry if you are not in the same tutor group as your current friends, you will be able to meet them every break and lunch!

Speaking of lunch, the food at BFS is pretty good – especially compared to my primary school! It is so easy too, you just put your fingerprint on a scanner and you are good to go!

At BFS I have enjoyed lots of new lessons, my favourite has been computer science. Science and Maths have also been more challenging since primary school!

Going to secondary school is a big change, but I am sure you are going to love being part of BFS. I look forward to seeing you in September!

Year 7, 2020 - 2021

Dear Year 6

Would you like to know why I'm writing to you? well it's because you are all very nervous about year 7. I can ensure you it is a piece of cake. I was nervous on my first day in fact I was begging my mum not to go in but when I did there were lovely people showing us to the MUGA (the Court yard) where our tutors were.

After you know where to go your tutors will show you to your classroom where you will put your bags and they will show you around. There are various places to go in BFS such as D block, C block, MUGA, marquee, field, cafeteria and more I was **VERY SCARED** about getting lost because the school looked so much bigger than I thought. But there is nothing to worry about because they give you a map of C block and D block. There are two stories like DG08 that would be ground floor because of the G and DF08 that would be first floor because of the F.

The food is delicious AND there are so many choices it's really cheap like the slice of cheesy pizza is only £1 and it's amazing the staff there are nice and most of the lessons are fun. For break and lunch, you will have a 15-minute break and a 35-minute lunch (but I don't know if this is fully right) there are quite a lot of places to go at break like the MUGA, the sides of the MUGA that are big, a fun hill, places with a triple basketball hoop and more.

In, BFS you will get lessons like math, English, science, MFL (French, Spanish) DT, Art, PE, History, RE (religious education), CS (computer science), Drama, Geography, Music, PSHE and that's it :)

Yours sincerely,

Year 7 student