

Dear Year Six Pupil,

I've heard you are starting at Park High School in September and I'm here to advise you and tell you about my first few terms here at Park High. You may be worried about coming to Park High, but I can assure you it will be fine you will soon make friends and enjoy school. Everyone at Park High is supportive and will help you.

My first few weeks were nerve racking but then I made friends and things were fine. When people come to secondary school, they are usually most worried about making new friends, but I know you will make friends in no time. Just make sure you don't try to be someone else, just be yourself. It is better to tell people who you really are because then they will really be your friends.

What I was most worried about when I came to Park High was learning new subjects and there being people better than me at them. But that is not what you should focus on. School is about bettering yourself in each test, you should aim higher than before and don't worry about what other people get, worry about what you get. Your teachers and other pupils will give you so much support too. Other things that worried me was how big the school was, with so many classrooms. It may be strange at first to have a different teacher for every subject when you are just used to one or two, and it may be different to be in a school with nine classes per year group which may seem like a lot, but you will soon get used to it. To be honest once you have been here for a few weeks, you get used to it and know where to go, and it doesn't feel so big anymore. Just make sure you learn the route to each classroom and walk around to different lessons with friends.

Another great thing is the extra-curricular clubs from dance to football there is always one that someone will like and enjoy. I would advise you to go to a few different clubs because they let you meet new people who like the same things as you, and they are good for you to get to know more teachers.

One other thing, always listen in assemblies because they have a clear theme, and they are always good life lesson. Also always listen in PSHCEe because these lessons are important and help you in your life. Another thing is revision before a test is important because it helps you to remember what you have learnt.

I know it may have been a difficult year for you with coronavirus with the many lockdowns and learning at home. It may be an odd year to end at primary school with things changing at school and in normal life. You may not get a party and you might not have to do your SATs but remember that school is not about anyone else but you. Remember don't let anything you don't want forced on to you. There may well be subjects you aren't good at, but you still have other strengths. Your teachers are there to support the path that you want to take not anyone else's.

If you do all these things then I assure you your first year at Park High will be great.

Wishing you well.

Connor

Dear year 7 student,

High school is an exciting new chapter in your life and there is nothing to be worried or anxious about. You will be meeting new people and actually get along with some of them (who knows they might become your best friend!) I am just finishing my first year of high school and the thought of me starting high school this time last year I was also scared, nervous but excited about starting my new chapter. Starting high school and making new friends was something that was always on my mind but it's not as scary as it sounds. Everyone is new to the environment and are all nervous about making friends but it is normal. My best advice about making friends is talk to as many people as you can and get to know a different range of people as then you will start to feel more confident and less nervous as you are starting to make friends. I did this at the beginning of my year and it has helped me a lot. I now have many friends and it feels crazy to know that I started with no friends and not knowing anyone to having some amazing friends. This will be you!

If you are ever feeling scared or worried you can always talk to the teachers or even some students like me who have been in your position before. The teachers are kind, caring and so are the students, they can help you if you need to find your way around the school or if you have any questions.

The learning is amazing, having worries about this is also normal but everyone has come from a different background and you will learn and understand different things, for example if someone knows something that you don't it does not make them a better person than you. I have always been cautious about getting a question wrong in class because someone might laugh or make fun of me, however you need to think of this as a positive rather than a negative, this will help you with your confidence not only with your teachers but also with your class peers.

Overall, there is nothing to be scared about and this is a fun new chapter that you will learn to enjoy. Good luck and see you soon!

Sienna 7DM

Hello everybody,

My name is Kirsty, and I am a Year 7 Ambassador here at Park High School. You can identify us because we have pink badges that say AMBASSADOR.

Starting at a new school can be confusing and scary enough without the added pressure of the Coronavirus too. When I first started Year 7, I was really nervous and had no idea what to expect but the teachers were welcoming, and I made friends very quickly. Starting here, the school felt like a maze, so big and a lot of corridors but after a few weeks I already knew my way around. Park High is a diverse community with people from all different places in the world who all accept each other. There is a range in subject topics and nearly all lessons are fun. To add to this, every student is supported and cared for, everyone has someone to go to whether its their form tutor, head of year, subject teacher or a friend and they will always listen. The oakwood project is another supporting platform for people who are struggling with bullying or have been bullied and need people to talk to. You can locate them by an acorn badge.

This school has taken so many specific procedures to make sure everyone stays safe during the coronavirus pandemic, whether it's wearing a face mask, staying to your own bubble or having to do self-covid tests at home twice a week.

Good luck for Year 7 and I hope to see you around school.

Kirsty

Dear year 6's,

When I found out I was accepted into Park High school I had mix feelings, excited, nervous, worried and scared. I kept on questioning how my experience would be at Park High, will I make new friends? Will I be able to know my way around the school? Will the teachers be nice to me? So many thoughts and questions filled my head.

On my first day In Park High, I went through the front gates waving goodbye to my parents. The teachers were so kind and helpful, they guided me around the playground to line up with my form. I met my form tutor and my class, they also seemed so nice. While I was lining up waiting to go into my form room, all my feelings and questions came back to me. I was mostly nervous about socialising with people. Once I got into my form room, I got to know my form tutor more and we all did many activities together as a class. During breaktime there were so many people, everybody was trying to make new friends. Eventually I made new friends and all my worries went away. Later on, I got to meet some of my lesson teachers. They were so helpful and friendly; they helped everyone if they found something hard or confusing. For each lesson I had a new teacher which was different to my primary school. Most of my lessons were in my form class so I didn't have to worry about moving around to different places. At the end of the day, I was happy and relieved, I now knew that I would enjoy my time at Park High.

Over the coming months we did move onto online schooling. I thought it would be difficult but eventually I was able to keep up with all my work and attend my lessons on time. I could communicate easily to my teachers if I found anything hard.

I hope you enjoy your time at Park High.

Aalia, 7DM