

ADVICE FROM YEAR 7 STUDENTS



What do the current Year 7s think?

What do you enjoy the most about BGS?

“When I first started Bexley Grammar School I was quite nervous, but what I have enjoyed the most is all of the students and teachers are really supportive and reassuring. If I have got stuck on any homework I am allowed to email either my teachers, peer mentors, or my friends. Everyone is polite, caring and they all help you in their own kind ways. There are many fun activities that take place before, during and after school! The lessons are very fun too!!”

How did you make new friends?

“On my first day of school, I met my lovely form tutor Miss Ashman and she got the class to introduce themselves to everyone and she gave us some time to get to know each other. At breaktime, and lunch I sat down in the canteen and I started talking to the people in my class. However, I also made friends with a Year 9 student who showed me around the school, which was amazing because then I could be friends with her. Another way to make friends is by going to clubs and events and I have made many friends by going to clubs like Netball, House Football, Coding club and many more!”

Gracie Gosling 7MCA

How did you find going to different lessons around the school? What did you enjoy? Were there any problems? How did you deal with them?

When I joined BGS, I was so excited! I was happy that I got a place at this school. Of course, everything was new and unfamiliar to me: I wasn't used to going around the school for different lessons and having homework set every day. In the beginning I was anxious and thought that I would never get used to it. Nevertheless, quite soon I found new friends, got to know my new teachers, settled in and felt comfortable. I adapted to the school routine and enjoyed the lessons. Some of my favourite subjects are: German (it is real fun to dive into it), Maths (lots of challenging problems), English (I really enjoy creative writing and reading), History, Geography and Science (help to understand better the world and our planet). In general, I really enjoy going to school.

Any tips or advice? What is the one thing that you wish you knew before starting school?

I think that one of the most important things in secondary school is being organised and planning ahead. When doing work, you should prioritise your subjects. Make sure you use your planner: write down any homework you are set straight away, so you don't forget about it later. Use a calendar marked with equipment you need for different days (sports kit, projects, books etc.). Look at the timetable and remember to pack your school bag the night before, so that you don't forget anything.

Don't be scared of getting to know new people, starting new clubs and taking part in house activities. If you are unsure of something and need help, don't be nervous and ask your older peers - they are all very friendly and eager to help.

As long as you keep this in mind, you will manage very well at secondary school. Don't panic, be positive and open to new. Be yourself. Good luck!

Anna Tyukova 7MGG

How did you find going to different lessons around the school? What did you enjoy? Were there any problems? How did you deal with them?

When I first joined I thought I would get lost as the school was so big. But I surprised myself as it wasn't too bad. I also walked around the school at break times and lunchtimes to get a feel for the school and to understand what is where and it made me very good at knowing how to go from class to class. I knew the school so well I basically became class wayfinder making sure the entire class made it to the lesson on time. I found that the maps you receive are very, very helpful and they help you understand Bexley Grammar School so much more than you think.

Any tips or advice? What is the one thing that you wish you knew before starting school?

If I knew one thing before starting school it would be that you never will get lost as the school is not as vast and big as you think and it will be easy to navigate around. The school is full of more things to discover and even I am discovering new and different things around the school. Maybe you will find something I haven't?

Luke Howard 7MEM

What do you enjoy most about BGS?

It's really difficult to say... I love my new friends, I love (some of) the teachers, and (some of) the lessons they teach... I really enjoy Drama, because of the teacher, Mrs Gabriel. She makes the lessons much more free than any other lesson, and everyone is allowed to go slightly wild and let themselves shine! I am not sure about the other teachers, but based on the little I had seen and heard of them, they are as nice as Mrs Gabriel. I really enjoy talking and walking around the school with my best friends (which is a good way to get to know the school) and all the fun we have outside messing around with the other girls and boys. In conclusion, it is really hard to say... I like it all!!

Nicole Parboo 7MCA

What was your first impression of BGS?

My first impression of BGS was that it was a way lot bigger than primary school. We had a map and a timetable but I couldn't understand any of the names and symbols but I knew them later on. The teachers were nice as they wouldn't mind if we were late as half of us didn't know where anything was.

How did you make new friends?

When I joined BGS I had two people I knew from primary school in my class (Matthew and Victoria) who helped me to make friends. In most of our classes we did activities such as ordering us in age, order or height and games to find out who had siblings pets etc. Another way I made friends was the people I sat next to as Daniel sat next to me in form so that is how I made one of my first friends. When I made a friend, he would then introduce me to his friends which gave me even more friends and eventually everyone knew each over.

Dhiren Sanga 7MCA

What do you do at break or lunch? Where did you go? Who with?

In my first weeks I used to enjoy being in the library since I enjoy books and the library has many books that I hadn't read yet, this was also where I discovered the warrior cats series. Soon I discovered that there were other warrior cat fans in my class and we'd decided that we'd meet up twice a week at lunch time to talk about the books.

How did you find going to different lessons around the school? What did you enjoy? Were there any problems? How did you deal with them?

When you're in form on the first day of school, your form tutor gives you a map of the school to help you find your lessons. I wasn't very good with maps so I ended up asking the other students who were very helpful. You also have to try your best to memorise where your classrooms are because after a week or so your teachers aren't as lenient if you arrive a bit late! Also, you always have to keep an eye on your planner since you can easily forget about it and leave it lying around and then end up losing it which isn't very nice since your planner has your timetable, map, notes pages and other things that you would need during the school day.

Elizabeth Smirnova 7MCA

What have you found most interesting about Bexley Grammar School?

What I found most interesting about Bexley Grammar is the variety of subjects and extra-curricular clubs that we can go to. At Bexley Grammar, we have the chance to learn food technology (food-tech) in DT, and we also can learn how to use the laser printer, and even the 3D printer (in DT club as well)! Another extra-curricular subject I find interesting is drama, as we have a theatre where we can control the lights to match the production that we occasionally will get to watch, which are incredible.

What is the planner? How do you use it?

The planner is a convenient organiser where you can record all sorts of information - I mainly use it to record important dates, such as an upcoming house event, or my homework and when it is due. Another purpose for my planner is to track my progress throughout the terms in school, such as the grades I get, and whether they get better when I get my next report, or to make notes on how to improve.

Celine Pan 7MEM