



Excellence Innovation Respect

Oakgrove Transition 2021 – Common Student Questions



On the Oakgrove School Year 7 Transition Day website there should be a short video answering the main questions that came up during the visits to schools/afterschool presentation from Mr Robinson and Miss Yeoman



Oakgrove Transition 2021 – Common Student Questions

How Did Other People Feel?

A lot of your worries are probably similar to those others had when they moved up to secondary school. Read some of the comments from current secondary school students below:

I was worried about getting lost, but the school wasn't as big as I had thought.

I was worried about the new lessons that I hadn't done before but I love them now.

I was worried the teachers would be scary and shout a lot, but they were friendly and helpful just like my primary teachers.

There are more options for PE, and DT, music and art are all better than in primary school!

I was worried about getting to lessons on time, but there were lots of students willing to help. They were really friendly and pointed us in the right direction if we got lost.

I was worried about how much work and homework there would be, and that I wouldn't understand it. I didn't need to worry; the work was linked to what we already knew so it wasn't much harder than primary.

I was worried about bullying. In the first week at school our form tutors talked to us about the bullying policy and who we could talk to if we saw any bullying in school. I felt safe knowing that my teachers were there to speak to if I had any worries.

I was worried about not making friends, but now I have new friends as well as my friends from primary school. You spend lots of time together in lessons and form time so there are lots of chances to get to know people.

Remember to also read through the Transition Information booklet – pages 13-15 will give some helpful hints on this area too!

Common Student Questions and Queries:

What do I do if I'm late getting to school?

If there is a **legitimate reason** for you being late then get your parents/carers to write a note in your planner (or on paper) with the reason, include their signature and name and get them to date it. This will mean you have no further consequences. If you arrive late without a note then an L code will be issued and a break/lunch detention set. Regular lateness can result in reports and other sanctions.

What happens if I forget my pencil case?

If this is a off one mistake then speak to your tutor or friends and see if they can lend you some equipment for the day. If you have a key worker (SEND students) let them know and they will be able to help you. Some students might have ongoing problems with organisation issues and they might benefit from our 'equipment checks' club which meets in the morning. Discuss any concerns in September with your form tutor.

How much homework will I get in Year 7 at Oakgrove School?

Most of your subjects will set weekly homework for you (there are a few exception like RE where it is fortnightly or drama where they do not normally set homework). Homework should be completed on the night its set and should take no more than 1-1.5 hours per night. Completing the homework when its set will mean its clearer in your memory, you have time to speak to the teacher if you have an issue and large amounts don't build up requiring long time scales to complete them. Again speak to your tutor or look at going to homework club if you are worried about keeping on top of this in September.

Common Student Questions and Queries:

What should I do if get stuck completing a homework task?

If a task set is causing you problems then the best thing to do is to speak to the classroom teacher about it. Depending on when the homework is due this might be at the end of a lesson or the following day. If you are unable to find the teacher then you could try contacting them on their email or speaking to your tutor for advice. You could also ask other people in the class what they did or for some support?

Can I bring a packed lunch to school?

Yes of course – students have the choice to bring their own food in or buy food in school. You can choose to do different things on different days e.g. packed lunch on Monday and school lunch on Tuesday. You will be given some extra time to get you settled and more familiar with the break/lunch set up so try not worry about this.

Can I get a locker?

Yes lockers are available to purchase (but not all students choose to have them). Information regarding this has been sent to parents/carers so speak to them when you get home.

Common Student Questions and Queries:

What happens if I'm unwell and can't come into school?

If you're poorly and too unwell to come into school then get a parent/carer to contact the school and notify us using either the school line 01908 545300 and follow the links to report an absence. Or Parents/carers can also do this using their phone to text 07860 097184 or email (see school website for full website).

What should I do if I don't know/get on with anyone in my tutor group?

If you're coming from a school where you're the only person then try not to be too nervous. There will be lots of new people to meet in both your tutor group and your lessons. Try to speak to lots of people and work out who you might get a long with and want to be friends with.

Can I get food in the school canteens?

Yes at both break and lunch time there will be a variety of food and drink available to buy if you wish. You will need to have an account set-up (not on your first few days though so you can bring cash then) for our cashless catering system. If you have any problems with this then please go and speak to student services.

Common Student Questions and Queries:

Where do I enter the school?

Normally students should enter through the large school gates (grey gates) near to reception (have a look on the virtual tour to try and see where this is. Due to covid-19 we have also opened up the side gate from the car park and this might be accessible in September too! We'll update you when you arrive for your first day.

How do I get involved in school groups like Student Voice or Learning Ambassadors?

In assemblies and tutor time you will be told about different groups and how to enter so make sure you listen carefully and see the appropriate person (or your tutor) if you need more details on how to get involved!

What will my teachers be like?

You will have a variety of different teachers with different styles teaching you throughout the day. Whilst some might be your favourites and others might not be your preference, the variety will hopefully keep lessons interesting and allow you to develop the skills to work with different people across the school. All teachers will follow the same curriculum and behaviour expectations set by the school's behaviour policy so make sure you are clear on these and ask politely if you are not. Remember excellence, innovation and RESPECT!

There might be other questions that we haven't covered today – most of these should be answered when you start in September so try not to worry but if there is something urgent that you need help with before the summer holidays then speak to your parents/carers/teacher and they can make contact with us using the school email: Oakgrove@Oakgrove.school and putting for the attention of the Transition Team