




# Beyond

THE JOURNEY  
CONTINUES



 THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND  
Diocese of Manchester

CHURCH FOR A DIFFERENT WORLD

## CHURCH & SCHOOL RESOURCE PACK



# Why Beyond?



## THE VISION

The transition from Year 6 to Year 7 is filled with wonder, excitement, apprehension, and questions. Beyond is a resource for churches and schools to use to help children process how they are feeling and to help them discover some tools to help them in their journey.



“

**TRAIN A CHILD HOW TO LIVE THE RIGHT WAY. THEN EVEN WHEN HE IS OLD, HE WILL STILL LIVE THAT WAY. ”**



## THE JOURNEY

As part of a Church of England school a vast amount of Year 6's have been part of a spiritual community for their whole schooling, Beyond hopes to help that spiritual journey continue into secondary school.



## WHAT TO EXPECT

We have planned a variety of different resources with lesson plans, easy to get resources, video links and printables. We have included ideas on how to use this in churches and schools as well as a Year 6 Leavers service plan.



# TOP TIPS



## BUILD RELATIONSHIP

The transition from Year 6 to Year 7 is a big change in a young person's life. Schools really appreciate anything that churches can offer to encourage and support pupils and their families through this season and beyond. The time around secondary school places being allocated and the approach to SATs week can be daunting for both pupils and staff so offering to pray for them or giving a gift can inspire and reassure everyone that they are not alone. Delivering Beyond activities shows how faith in God is relevant to real life and how He can help us when we face change. It shows that the church has a genuine care and concern for local families as they share faith, hope and love. It is also an opportunity to invite pupils to church activities and show how they can continue on a journey of faith.

## CULTURAL CONSCIENCE & CONTEXT

We live in a time where our schools, both church and community, are increasingly more diverse and this is something to be celebrated! We get to experience more ways of life than ever before and get to see the world through so many different lenses. We get to see more love, joy and excitement through the young people we work with. However, we also get to see a lot more of the pain that they may have to endure. The world we live in is broken and that affects the lives of so many of our young people. As leaders and role models for our young people, we have the responsibility to empower them and uplift them, through the love of God.

When using stories from the Bible, be aware of the language you are using and how it may sound in the context you are in. Be conscious of the social climate you are in, in your local area, across the nation and across the world. The bible was created to help spread the love of God, but taken out of context, it could end up doing the complete opposite.

There will be times where we slip up and make mistakes, we are only human, but all anyone can ask of us is to try our best to be culturally conscious and aware of our contexts.

## PRESENTATION & COMMUNICATION

When it comes to presenting and communicating with Year 6 pupils, it is essential to take some time to plan the session and think through the words and the way you will say them. Speak clearly and engagingly, using simple language and avoiding complex terminology. Plan to use visual aids, such as pictures, diagrams, or props, to capture their interest and reinforce key concepts. Encourage active participation by asking questions, inviting them to share their thoughts, and incorporating interactive elements like role-playing or hands-on activities.

Most importantly, make the learning experience enjoyable and memorable by injecting a sense of fun and enthusiasm into your presentation. You may need to adapt your communication style but ultimately the young people want to know who you are and sharing appropriate stories will help this.



# Big Step Forwards



LESSON PLAN & WORKSHEETS



# big step forwards SCHOOL



## AIM OF SESSION

A classroom-based workshop for Year 6 to explore their transition from primary school to secondary school looking at first days, lessons and homework, friendships and top tips from the experts.

## TIMING OPTION

# 45-60

MINUTES

## RESOURCES & IDEAS

Small groups within the class will be brilliant for this.  
Get feedback from the children after each small section and be prepared to answer questions.

Maybe invite a past pupils, maybe a Year 7 to share their wisdom with the class?

This is probably done best before they have their Year 7 induction day but can be used afterwards.

### *You will need:*

Beyond Bingo! - Print out one per person.

Access to YouTube for Video

PowerPoint slides

Printouts of the Big Step Forwards - a set per group

Different coloured pens for the small groups



# big step forwards



LESSON PLAN: 1 OF 2 PAGES

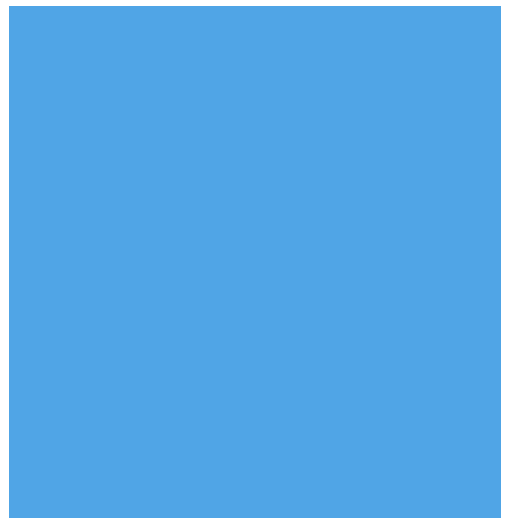
TIME	ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION
2 minutes	<b>Introduction</b>	Share about this time being set aside to discuss and share about moving from Year 6 to Year 7. Create a safe space for everyone.
5 minutes	<b>Icebreaker</b>	Give every child a printed-out card and explain they are to move around the class and get one signature in each box. <u>Moving Up!</u>
7 minutes	<b>Video &amp; Discussion</b>	Anna Freud video: Ask how the children are feeling about moving / what they think about Secondary school. Who do they relate to most in the video?
10 minutes	<b>First Day // First Impressions</b>	Give out the sheets // move the children into 2's or 3s depending on the tables // give 2 different coloured pens to each child. Ask the children to look over the quotes. As individuals: Colour 1 – in colour, they have first circle ones they like and help you. Action: Share why in groups Colour 2 – Swap pens and underline ones which are worries for them. Action: Share why in groups Get class feedback where they want to
10 minutes	<b>Friends</b>	Read through the quotes. With a colour the children can circle 2 or 3 which say best how they feel about old and new friends. Get class feedback

# big step forwards



LESSON PLAN: 2 OF 2 PAGES

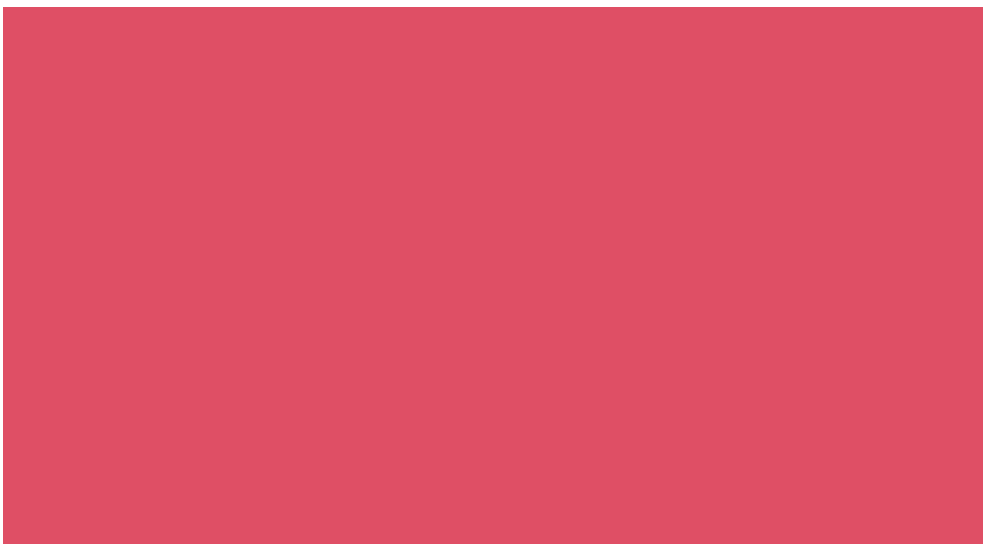
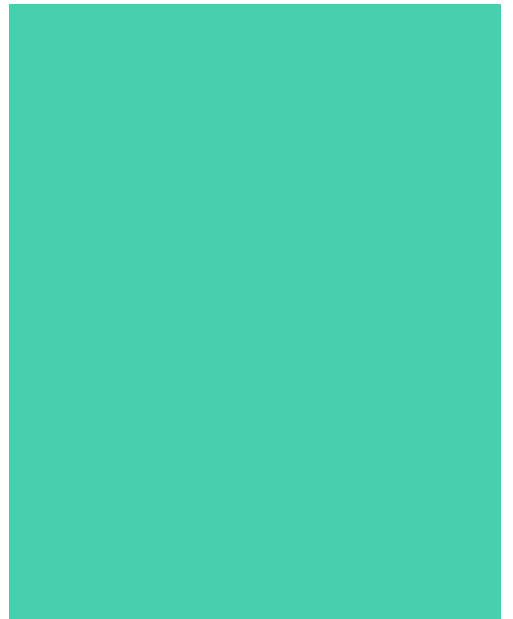
TIME	ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION
10 minutes	<b>Lessons, Homework &amp; Getting Around</b>	<p>Share it's ok to be worried about getting around, homework and which lessons you have.</p> <p>Read the quotes in small groups</p> <p>As a group</p> <p>Colour 1 – What are the top tips you can find – circle them</p> <p>Colour 2 – What do the quotes say about teachers?</p> <p>Colour 3 – What do the quotes say about what they enjoy?</p> <p>Share what you are looking forward to at secondary schools?</p> <p>Get class feedback</p>
10 minutes	<b>Top Tips</b>	<p>Read through the quotes and as a group pick the best 5 for them.</p>
2 minutes	<b>Wrap Up</b>	<p>Thank the children for sharing and listening.</p> <p>Offer time for questions should they have any.</p>



# big step forwards



WORKSHEETS & PRINT-OUTS



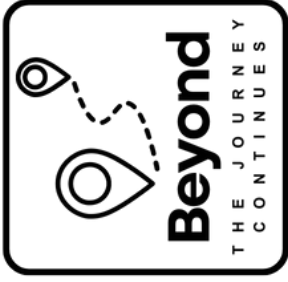


# FIND SOMEONE WHO...



is born in either Feb / Apr / June	has met a famous person	loves to swim
does not like broccoli	can play a musical instrument	who has watched all the Marvel films
who likes to wake up early	likes Marmite	has an older sister
hates Pizza	is left-handed	has made a YouTube video

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the  
big  
step  
forward



# First Day and First Impressions

It may be hard leaving your primary school and having to get the bus but you will soon make new friends and everything will be fun and exciting. On my first day I was a bit shy but that has all changed since I've found my friends.

I was in the same exact position you were in a year ago and I am now living my best life as a member of my high school family.

As a person who felt worried and anxious which you may feel right now, I am happy to tell you that it will go away soon. All you need to do is take a deep breath and calm down. I understand that it may feel like it is hard but trust me you can do it. You can do anything you put your mind to.

It may seem scary at first when everybody's saying enjoy year 6 whilst it lasts but in reality its not true year 7 is great. It provides wonderful opportunities in sport and education. I know that sounds like I'm being paid to say this but sadly I'm not. you are not the only one that's nervous there are thousands of others in your position.

I will admit it isn't all a walk in the park but as a student with autism it has been especially a challenge! (In a good way, I'm not here to worry you more!) High School has its ups and downs. Don't worry, everyone does this you're not alone so look forward to it or dread it it's your choice but you can succeed with a can do attitude and good friends.

When we left primary school we felt anxious and worried, but with the help of teachers and friendly students we soon settled in and you will too. At first, it may be scary and confusing but everything will turn out fine. Stay sensible and kind and you will succeed.

I don't think you should be as worried as you might be because it isn't as scary as it seems to start high school.

Of course, it's always a bit scary starting new things but don't let it take over you, because it's not worth stressing over it.

When you first start high school it may be scary or you may feel anxious. Or you can feel as though you won't make any friends, but I promise you it is great.

I hope you aren't worried about coming to this great school but if you are you should not worry about it; people are very welcoming and kind even if you think they won't be. Just remember that everyone is as nervous as you even though it may not seem like it.

**You may be feeling anxious about your trip to high school or you may be feeling very excited about your next step to high school. But no matter how you are feeling I promise you it is great for the expansion of your personality.**

**Don't be stressed about starting high school, there are many cool and amazing things to enjoy in year 7.**

**I did find moving to high school scary and I even had a dream about missing the bus. But when I went to school on my first day, I got the bus with my mum and she showed me what to do, I was very nervous what would happen, but it went well, and I got used to the school quite quickly. My friends from primary even followed me because they didn't know where they were**

**When you first <sup>going</sup> come to this school, you'll have a warm welcome from everyone. You'll soon come visit for Transition Day in a few months**

**I know how you feel going into a new school new people and loads older year's but don't worry they are very nice and they will show you your way to class.**

**I really do hope you have enjoyed your 7 years at primary school, it's like a chapter of your life has finished and a better and greater chapter is about to start. Primary school is very different to high school and it will take time adjusting but I'm sure each one of you will fit right in.**

**At first I found high school really hard, annoying and also HUGE. I had nerves but the key skill I had was confidence. When I'm telling you confidence is key, take it as a life lesson. You may feel upset that isn't the same as primary but you will get used to it.**

**When you first start in school you might feel a little scared and nervous. But don't worry there are teachers there to help you. The teachers will put everything you can to support you and feel happy in high school. All teachers try the best to make you feel happy and whenever you feel down you can go to any teacher**

**At first it <sup>you trust.</sup> maybe nerve racking but once you settle in you will be absolutely fine. The people and teachers will help you with whatever your worrying about**

**The jump from Year 6-7 is the biggest jump in your time at school, as it is the first time you swap schools in your life. It will probably be quite stressful but it is totally worth it.**

**The first days may be hard but don't worry you will warm up to it as you go on.**

High school may feel like a really scary place to go to ... but I promise you it's just the change of being the biggest fish in the tiniest tank to the smallest fish in a huge ocean! In high school, you may have heard that you will get bullied or bombarded by the older years but they are all lies!!! You will have your own classes and places to go, so smile about high school ... it's just like a larger version of primary school!!!

I am going to be honest, sometimes I felt a little bit downhearted and challenged! But with the right friends, I was actually like able to survive.

I understand you may be feeling a little anxious about starting at our new school and from this I can assure you there is nothing to be worried about that.

High school is really big and you might be the only person from your primary and it will feel so intimidating, but don't forget keep your head up high and keep persevering and you will get through it

Moving to High School/Secondary school isn't as hard as you think it is... It is like a bicycle you start off with training wheels and then after a while you start to grow up and become more mature and you take the training wheels off. Now I know high school and learning about riding a bicycle are very different things but what I mean by this is that you are at the point where you're taking your training wheels off and trying something different, in this case you're going to high school! At first it is hard finding your way around and making friends but after a while you get used to it, and you make friend groups, and you find your way around everything!

Don't worry if you're nervous about high school. It'll probably end up well! Ok it's hard when you're not in the school most of your friends/classmates are at, but as long as you're respectful and nice then you're guaranteed to get friends. Members of staff will definitely give you a sort of map, so you won't get lost, 'cause high schools are MASSIVE!

I started high school last year and had many mixed emotions such as excited, nervous, scared and happy. I was worried about making new friends, new teachers and even just being in a brand new environment....Everyone will be welcoming and on the first day you will likely be going to school feeling nervous but will be walking out feeling excited for the next day to come.

# Lessons, Homework and Getting Around

It is highly likely that you will get a detention at least once in your school year so don't be stressed because it's bound to happen.

High school has lots of new lessons that you might not already have like music, drama and food tech. My favourite lesson has to be food tech because you can bring in food and make things.

I started to stress out a lot on my homework but now I sometimes like doing homework.

And also, you have to move different classrooms, but don't worry, I'm sure you could try and find the right one

Make sure your homework is on time.

Revise for tests early and don't leave it last minute

Always start a lesson right

Hopefully you'll also be looking forward to your new lessons, there are loads of kind-hearted staff who will help you if you are struggling in anything. You'll learn loads of things for example in English, Shakespeare or in Art, Textiles

Do your homework on time and try to make a homework timetable

Always make sure you focus during lesson so you don't miss the important parts.

All the teachers here are very kind and your head of year and the other staff will look out for you to make sure you're OK. The lessons are very enjoyable. Some of the lessons that I've really enjoyed are: maths, spanish and english.

Always try and be organised and have the right equipment for high school.

Now about assessments, don't stress about tests or if you get any questions wrong because the teachers will go over subjects and help you learn the things you need to know to be prepared for the test

I was a little bit nervous as I could not find my way around. However, the teachers were always there to guide me to my lesson.

**keep on top of your homework by doing it the night it is set. This means that you don't have a huge pile of homework to do on the night before it is set, so if it is tricky you can come back to it later**

**One big thing is that you will have teachers that are maybe not your type and some that are amazing but one thing for sure is that they all will help you in all ways possible!**

**There are also more than one classroom for subjects and that's a good thing, because you won't have to sit down on just one chair all day apart from break and lunchtimes. In high school there are different rooms for a different subject so it's not all in the same room but don't worry about finding your way around because after a week the building will become more easier to get to lessons.**

**If you're stuck on homework, never leave it the day before its due so you have time to ask your teacher for help**

**Work can be a bit more difficult than it is in Year 6 but once you get used to it - I'm sure it won't be hard**

**Always try to keep yourself organised like making sure your homework is done or not forgetting your class book.**

**Your teachers also understand how scary it is to start high school so don't be worried that they'll be angry if you don't know your way around or go to the wrong classroom. I recommend to at least go to lessons with one other person in your class/form because then you won't be alone, and you can help each other. Secondly, the teachers are always there to help and support you. You'll have your form tutor, Head of Year or even just a teacher from one of your subjects.**

**I became more comfortable in my subjects and grew fonder of topics I formerly dreaded. I felt more able to ask questions and debate things.**

**Some of the lesson are fun and you can make posters or colour in pictures of animals in geography and knights in history. It is really fun doing football and rugby in PE on the astro turf.**

**The teachers are all very kind and caring in every subject and will always be there for you when needed.**

**Now, getting lost can seem like the worst thing that can happen but its is not like that. The teachers will help you find your way and direct you to the right class.**

**You will have a whole wide range of subjects to try such as: Spanish maybe French I'm not sure what language you will study but you will study one oh by the way the letters which say stuff like ' you may not enjoy this' are a load of rubbish. You will enjoy high school in your own special way.**

**I am sure you are worried about getting homework every night or getting lost but most nights you either have no homework or 1 peice but its not normally more than that.**

**Work can be a bit more difficult than it is in Year 6 but once you get used to it - I'm sure it won't be hard**

**Try your best in every lesson**

**If you do need help with where you need to go, there are maps around the school to help you out. There will be year 8-11 students always there walking around the school if you need extra help about where to go.**

**Lessons that I like are Food tech (haven't done it yet but I want to), music, art, science, and some PE like trampolining and dance are cool. There are a variety of lessons that you'll definitely find interesting!**

**You may need to get used to all the teachers and where all your classes are! I'm so sure that your older friends will help you get around the school.**

**Science is way cooler than in primary - cool experiments with Bunsen burners, flames, metals and acids reacting? SOOO awesome! :)**

**First I have a feeling your worried about homework and so was I really but don't worry you get second chances and so many reminders**

**I enjoy PE and Maths as in PE you talk a lot about your health which made me more confident in myself and with maths the teachers have expanded my knowledge and now I enjoy it.**

**You may also be worried about homework, now I can't say it will be easy but I can assure you you'll be fine and soon you will realise you that you have plenty of spare time to do it.**

**One thing that may be one of your biggest worries about transitioning into secondary school, is getting lost, but the teachers will do everything they can to ensure that you can get around fine. Even if you do get lost, teachers will be happy to point you in the right direction. I was worried about getting lost, but after a few days I was making my way around school perfectly.**



# Friends

First of all do not worry about making friends! They automatically come to you, when I started at high school I only had one other person who went to the same primary as me and I wasn't their friend. On the second day I made 3 friends, 2 of which I still talk to

I have some friends in here. I am very thankful that my friends are very friendly and kind.

If you are worried about making friends like I was don't worry because everyone is really friendly and everyone is in the same position as you. Some times it can feel like you don't have that perfect group of friends but don't feel upset as its a new school and everyone is a bit shy so speak to people and invite them to hang out with you.

Primary school helped me build my confidence. I made lots of new friends and started to like high school alot  
You will make so many new friends. When I joined I was a bit nervous not gonna lie but then I found so many new friends and I'm sure you will to. Who knows you might meet your new BFF!

My first piece of advice is that for the first couple of months, try and stick with the people you already know even if you aren't friends with them in primary school. This means you won't be lonely for the first part of the year. My second piece of advice is don't be scared about making friends there is so many people in high school that you are definitely going to make some new friends.

When I started at high school I was scared and felt lonely, but in my form met the nicest girl and we are still friends till now

When I first joined I was quite nervous like you may be. Don't worry because nothing bad will happen, you will make new friends (keep primary ones tho)

First off, at your new school you may or may not be accompanied by friends from primary.

If you are then you can still stay friends with them but try to make new friendships!

If you don't then have a look at the clubs, many people there will have the same interests as you. I personally found many new friends at my school's book club.

Also it may be hard to leave your friends but don't worry you will make new ones in no time and you can still stay in touch with some of your primary school friends like most of us did.

If you're worrying about making new friends, I did too. But I made many friends in Year 7. And I'm sure you will too.

When you come, you might see some people who you might become friends within the future...

There's nothing to worry about.

It is okay to change friend groups

Since I was one of the only people from my primary school, I was worried about making new friends. Thankfully, everyone was really friendly and I was able to make friends quickly.

So when I came I had no friend at all, but then I found my friends that I still hang out with to this day

You may not be friends with every person in the school but by the end of the year you will have many friends.  
(Don't rush it)

You may be worried that you might not make any friends, but don't worry! If you really want to make friends just talk to people that you think you will get along with. Or you might have some good friends from primary!

If you're worried about making friends that's alright, I was worried that I'd have no one to talk to but there's loads of people feeling just the same as you, so don't be scared to talk to other people.

Secondary is where you make most of your lifelong friends. It is nearing the end of Year Seven for me and I still hang out with my primary best friend every week.

You may have been really close with some friends in primary that aren't coming to your school, and 1 thing for sure is that you will miss them but you will always find a crowd like them. You also will meet so many new people with different interests. From experience please get into the right crowd of people because things can get out of hand if you're not. Last tip is that you're going to lose friends, gain friends and leave friends but never lose yourself!

When I went to the open evening someone sat next to me and started a conversation then we both liked the same things and became friends. I am glad he started the conversation because I was scared to talk to anyone

Friends is defiantly no obstacle as there is probably 10 times the amount of people in one year than your primary and you wouldn't believe how many times you have changed my friend group also try not to just make friends in your form as you don't spend much time there but still do as you might be limited to them on school trips (maybe) and most importantly have fun

A few months ago I was in your shoes. Starting year seven was really scary for me but only because I was scared I wouldn't make any friends but there is nothing to be worried about.

Even if you come all on your own you will still make many friends that will last a life time.

Now let's talk about making friends you may be one of the only one in your class going to the high school you picked but I'm sure you will make many friends that are just like you.

**Don't worry about detention because that caused me so much anxiety but I haven't gotten a single yet and now I have over 200 reward points which I won a £10 Amazon gift card from so just keep your head up and don't give up**

**I would suggest that you should go to summer school. Why? because summer school let me make new friends and learn about this school**

**Don't forget to reach for the sky, success comes when you try, but don't forget to have fun**

**Don't worry about needing to bring cash for school lunch - we use fingerprints!  
Let your light shine!**

**The main piece of advice that I can give you is to contribute in your lessons, even if you cannot stand the topic. If you prove your capability, you may grow to appreciate the subject**

**Talk to people but be yourself you will make plenty of friends. Always be creative and be the best you can be it will always do you good**

**Don't worry about detention because that caused me so much anxiety but I haven't gotten a single yet and now I have over 200 reward points which I won a £10 Amazon gift card from so just keep your head up and don't give up**

**Buying nice school bags is a fun part 'bout high school - they can be any colour and style you want! Including cute and matching equipment! You only need to make sure your bag can fit everything you need - that's simple!**

**Stay healthy and mentally prepared for your HS journey. Lots of sleep is beneficial along the way.**

**Another tip I have is to check your bag the night before or in the morning and make a little checklist to know that you have everything because if you take the bus then you can't go back if you forgot your maths book.**

**Remember too, you won't have perfect days all the time but don't let it pull you down because it is not worth worrying about it. Lastly, make sure that you're a nice person to other people because people will return that kindness back to you and it's just better being nice than nasty.**

**I would recommend bringing a pack lunch sometimes because at lunch the canteen is very busy, and some people are waiting a long time.**

**So don't be anxious — you will have so much fun and make kind friends.**

**Make a good impressions on your teachers**

**Be calm**

- Have positive attitude to school life (some days may be boring but many days are fun)**

**Make time for your self**

**Most importantly, have fun**

**Always make a good impression**

**Never be afraid talk to someone if you need help**

**Be nice to everyone**

**Always be a good role model so other people can look down to you**

**Always ask for help when needed**

**Being bad in high school is not cool so always be on your best behaviour**

**Be kind to everyone and make them feel wanted**

**My first tip is... (Drumroll!) To work hard. Not just in year seven, but in every year up till you have finished your education. Whatever you do in year seven will determine what you can achieve in years 8-11 etc. My next top tip is... not feel insecure about yourself. You are beautiful no matter what. You don't have to not eat just because someone tells you to. Or put on makeup to hide your spots (that's a classical one)! You have been fearfully and wonderfully made. One fact I'm going to tell you is that when you give yourself time and treat yourself right, your inner beauty starts to spark.**

**BE BOLD!!! Be the change in the world I know you can be**

**Be the best version of yourself**

**Another really big top tip don't try and be someone you're not because at the end of the day you're going to regret it. Instead be yourself more than ever share your good qualities and morals YOU BE YOU**

**The last tip from me is smile and be confident!**

**Now, I'm not saying everything is sunshine and bunnies, you'll have your ups and downs but try and stay resilient throughout, no matter what and you'll be rewarded.**

**When you feel scared or alone just remember that everyone experiences this, it's normal.**

**Reach out to someone.**

**Just one thing make sure to keep track of time so you won't be late for lessons but if you are in the first few weeks don't worry your teachers will understand your adapting. I'm still on my journey as well as you only a year ahead so I'm still learning! I've been on the school council even with my condition of autism, so if you have what they call a 'disability' (I don't think of myself as that) Don't let it stop you from achieving your goals but with or without one you will smash this it will be awesome! Join yourself in clubs to find friends with the same hobbies as you**

**And most importantly, don't cry because primary ended, smile because it happened**

**Make a great first impression**

**Don't hang out with the wrong people because it can impact your life for the worse**

**Be KIND because nobody likes a bully**

**Tip one, always stay in school and never ever try to skip school. Tip two, always be polite to the teachers and never say anything mean, disrespectful or rude to any member of staff. Tip three, always get involved with outdoor activities such as: rugby, football and many more.**

**Don't let people stop you from achieving your dreams**