Year 6 – Year 7 Transition at JRS

Once a Year 6 child has a confirmed place at JRS, we look at how we can best support their transition from Year 6 to Year 7.

Starting secondary school can be a daunting prospect for a 10 or 11 year old, so we do our best to make this change as easy as possible. We are a small school, so we get to know our students very quickly which makes it much easier to help them if they need it – just as they've been used to at primary school. At JRS, every child is known by name and not just a number amongst hundreds.

Between them, Miss Flanagan and Mrs Pursell visit every child in their primary school setting to get to know them and their needs. We speak to the child and their teacher so we can share some useful information with their JRS teachers before they start with us in September.

To prepare students for their new start we invite them all to a taster day in school, usually at the end of June. On the taster day, they will experience a typical day at JRS.
They will attend normal lessons, spend their break and lunchtime with the other JRS students and meet a range of teachers and staff during their tour of the school and lessons for the day.

In the evening of the taster day, we invite Year 6 parents and their children to a Year 6 parent's information evening, where we share more detailed information about our school, our expectations and other vital and necessary points. The senior team of Mr Blackburn, Mr Walker, Miss Metcalfe and Miss Flanagan are usually available at this meeting, as is our SENDco, Mrs Pursell.

Some of our current Year 7 students would like to share how they feel about JRS after spending a few months here:

I have enjoyed my time so far at JRS because the friends I have made along the way are brilliant. The teachers understand if you find something difficult. The canteen is packed with delicious food like; hash browns, waffles, sausage or bacon sandwiches, fruit, yoghurts and many drinks to choose from. When I started secondary school I thought it would be a walk in the park, and it was, and still is to this day. At JRS we do a whole school fell race, it's basically a race where you run over rough and soft terrain, up and down hills and through a river, if you were running the entire way it would take about 20-30 minutes. The best part about JRS are the school trips, you have the chance to go bowling, do laser quest, visit arcades or watch a movie. Overall, I would give JRS an 8/10 only because I have not yet had the full experience.

Roman Y7

Going to secondary school was a really big change for me at first, and I was nervous about what it would be like. But actually, I settled in really well. There are so many amazing, helpful people at the school, and the teachers and the other students are always happy to help you if you need it. It's really easy to make friends which made starting secondary school much less scary than I thought it would be. My favourite thing about JRS is that you get the chance to make life long friends and meet a lot of different people. You might think that is going to be really hard when you start, but it really isn't as bad as you think! The teachers help you understand things and

show support. You also get some great opportunities to try new things and be a part of different activities. Overall, going to secondary school has been a really good experience for me.

Summer Y7

When I started at JRS, it was really scary. I didn't know who anyone was, or where anything was, but everyone has been and still is so kind to us. When I couldn't find my classrooms, the older students were keen to help me. JRS welcomed me with open arms. I love how many opportunities you have at this small school. The fell race was really fun, and everyone supported each other. Starting a new school can be daunting, but the older students will be there for you.

Lydia Y7