



Finding out
about

Secondary
School



This booklet suggests some things you might want to find out about secondary school.

You could do this perhaps by looking on the school website or find out things when you visit the school.

Perhaps you know someone who already goes to the school - you could ask them some questions.

This was taken from the East Sussex County Council website

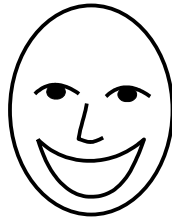
When will I go to secondary school?

Draw or write in some things which will probably happen between now and starting secondary school eg the summer holiday!

	February	
	March	
	April	
	May	
	June	
Date	July	
Summer holiday begins		
	August	
Date	September	
Start secondary school		

How are you feeling?

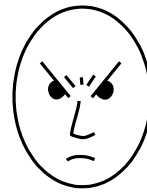
Think about starting at secondary school and circle all the feelings you have



Happy

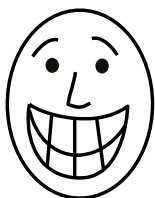


Worried



Cross

Photo or drawing of self



Excited



Sad

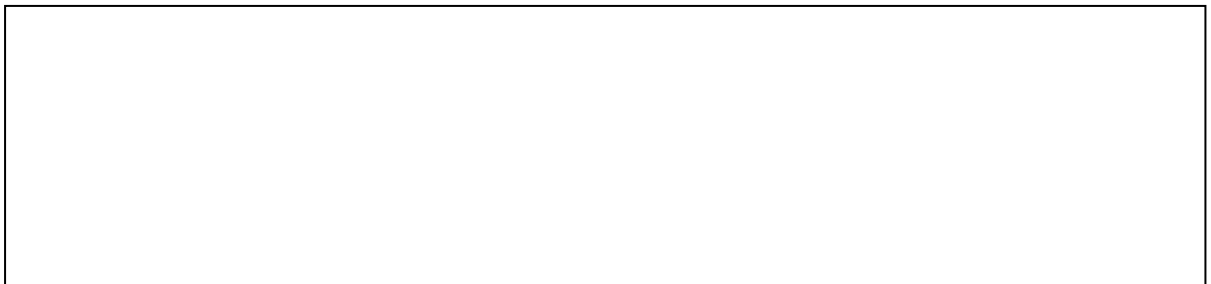
List some things you are looking forward to:



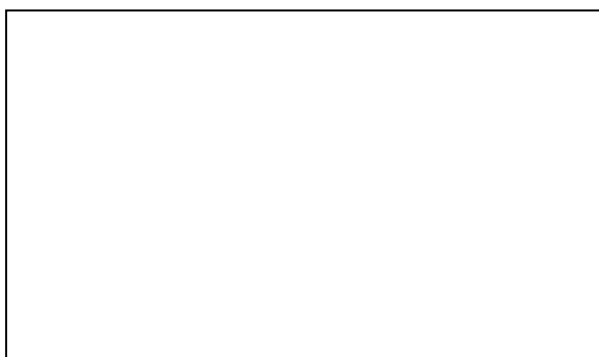
List some things you'd like to know more about



Ideas for finding out about these things (eg ask class teacher, ask when visiting school)



What will your uniform be like? Picture of uniform.

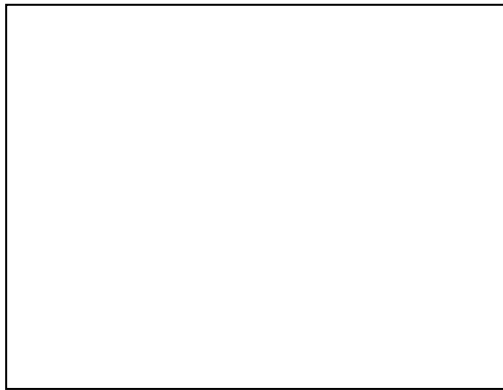


General Information about the School

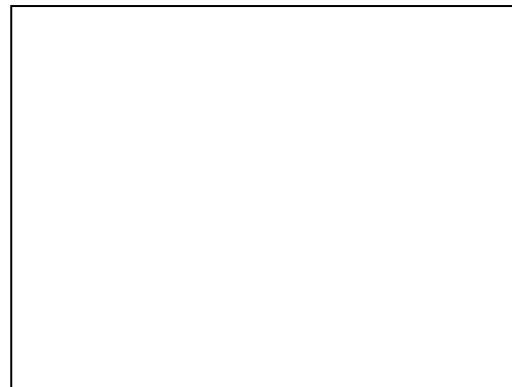
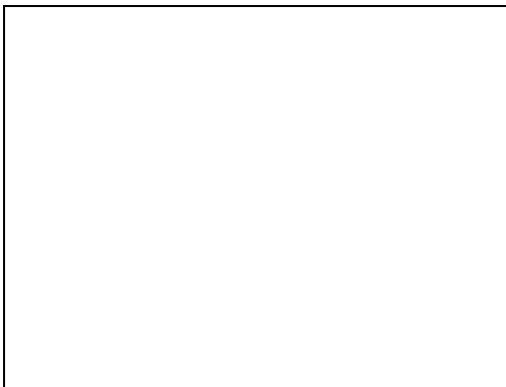
Name of school.....

Collect some pictures of the school and places in the school and stick them on this page if you want to. You may be able to get photos from the school website or take some photos when you visit.

Some ideas are:



Picture of front of school

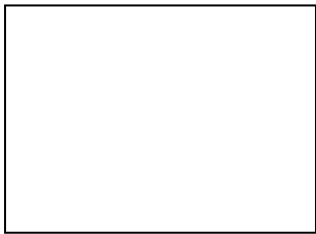


Fun places, perhaps

A science lab or
Computer suite

Who's Who?

Secondary schools may use different words to describe different jobs. For example, the Head Teacher might be called The Principal. Find out the name of the Head Teacher of your secondary school and the title (eg Principal, Head Teacher) he or she is given.



Name: Title.....

Other staff you might need to know about:

My form tutor is



Try and find out when you will see your form tutor (it will probably be every day).

Your form tutor is there to help you.

There may be other staff who could help you eg Head of Year, SENCO, Find out who they are:



Name

Name

Title

Title

Travelling to and from School

Going to school:

I will travel by (car, bus, train, cycle, walk, other)

I will need to leave home at about am

If I miss by bus or train, I could

.....

Coming home:

I will travel by (car, bus, train, cycle, walk, other)

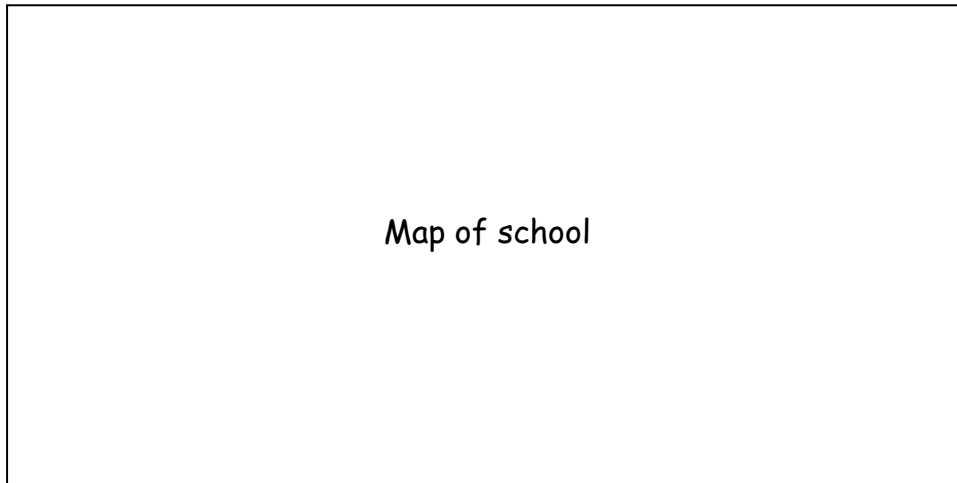
I will leave school at about pm

If I miss by bus or train, I could

.....

Getting around school

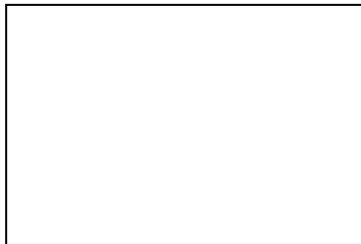
Ask if you could have a map of the school



Map of school

Lots of people at school will help me find my way around. If I can't find my way I could

Put in photos of important places in school eg where I will go in, where I will eat, my form room (if I know), the toilets



Timetables!

Timetables

All secondary schools have timetables which are great because you know what you will be doing usually. Here is a timetable from one school. See if you can answer the questions.

Week 1

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9:00	English	Maths	Science	MFL	Maths
10:00	B	R	E	A	K
10:30	Maths	Science	English	IT	Science
11:30	PE	English	RE	Science	IT
12:30	L	U	N	C	H
1:30	MFL	Technology	Games	Maths	RE
2:30	Music	Technology	Games	PSHE	English
3:30	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home

Week 2

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9:00	Maths	Science	Technology	Maths	Science
10:00	B	R	E	A	K
10:30	MFL	English	Science	English	Maths
11:30	Science	RE	IT	English	MFL
12:30	L	U	N	C	H
1:30	Technology	IT	Maths	Games	English

2:30	Technology	PSHE	RE	Games	Assembly
3:30	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home

What time do lessons begin?

What time is lunch?

How long are the lessons?

When is assembly?

Is it a weekly or two weekly timetable?

How many English lessons are there in a week?

What lesson is after break on Wednesday in week 1?

What is the last lesson on Friday in week 2?

Lessons are sometimes called 'periods'
eg in Week 1, Monday period 1 is English.
Period 2 is Maths and so on.

What is period 4 on Tuesday in week 1?
.....

If possible, find a copy of a timetable from your secondary school and stick it here.

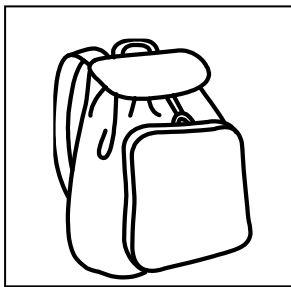
My First Day

Your first day will be special - it will be a time to find out more about your new school. (It will be a new school for all Year 7s and most people will be feeling a bit nervous).

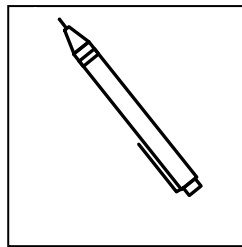
I will need to take:



or



Bag

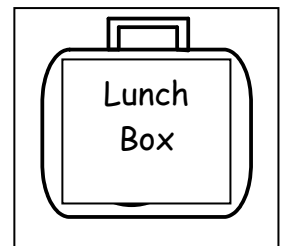


pen

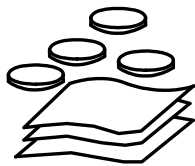
Pencil

Ruler

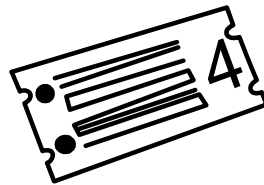
Rubber



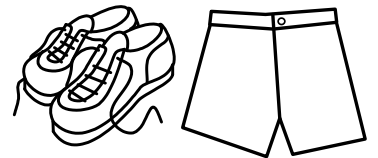
lunch



Money



Bus/train ticket



PE equipment

Anything else?

.....

.....

Find out where you should go when you first arrive.

Friends

Will you know anybody at your secondary school?

Names of people I will know:

.....
.....

You will be able to make new friends.

Some points to remember when meeting people:

- Smile and try to look towards the person
- Try to remember the other person's name
- Be a good listener
- Try and say something to do with what the other person says

When you meet a new person, some things you could say:

- Hello, my name is
- What primary school did you go to?
- Where do you live?

Think of some other things you could say

.....

Check with an adult. If possible, practice the above with another person.



warning

Beware of false friends.

Watch out for people who try to get you to do things which you know are wrong. Try and stay away from these people.

Homework

Sometimes there is not enough time in lessons to learn about all the things the teacher wants you to know.

Sometimes there is not enough time in lessons to read a lot or do research on the internet.

Sometimes there is not enough time in lessons to practise new things.

Even though the school day has finished we can go on learning. That is why you are given homework.

You will probably be given a book in which you can write down what you have to do and when you have to do it by. This may be called different things in different schools eg planner, homework diary.

Find out what it is called in your secondary school.

Below are some thoughts one pupil had about homework:

Doing Homework

I will try and do my homework without making a fuss.

If I do this my parents/carers will be pleased with me.

If I do this my teachers will be pleased with me.

I will be pleased with myself!

I will learn more so that I do well in the next lesson.

After I have tried to do my homework I can relax and have fun.

I can enjoy doing other activities and hobbies that I choose myself.

These thoughts might be helpful for you.

My Notes Page

Add anything you want to about your secondary school here:

Things to find out when you visit:

- 1.**
- 2.**
- 3.**
- 4.**
- 5.**

Any Questions?

Top Tips

- Before starting at the school, practice things you might find hard eg packing your bag, putting on your uniform and shoes, tying your tie, putting on your PE kit.
- Make sure your name is on most things.
- Put a copy of your timetable somewhere in your home eg bedroom or kitchen.
- Check your timetable every night before school and pack your bag.
- Remember lunch - packed lunch or money.
- Remember your bus pass, or whatever you need for travelling.

What if

If I forget how to find my way to the classroom

- ✓ I will get my map from my diary planner and see if I can work it out
- ✓ I will try and ask someone in my class
- ✓ I will ask the teacher
- ✓ I will ask someone in the school office

If someone calls me an unkind name

- ✓ I will try and walk away and not swear and shout at that person
- ✓ I will tell my teacher why I feel upset
- ✓ I will tell my Mum and Dad when I get home

If I forget my dinner money

- ✓ I will tell my Form Tutor
- ✓ She could call my Mum
- ✓ My Mum could bring some dinner money into school

If I forget to bring my homework to school

- ✓ I will tell my form teacher
- ✓ I will tell the subject teacher and say the reason why I have not got my homework
- ✓ The teacher will tell me where I have got to put my homework when I bring it in tomorrow

People who can help me?

- ✓ Form Tutor
- ✓Senco
- ✓TA / LSA
- ✓Friend / Buddy
- ✓Mentor
- ✓Secertary

What if I have nothing to do at break?

- ✓ I could go to the library
- ✓ I could join a school lunch time club
- ✓ I could buy a snack and eat it in the dining hall
- ✓ I could find my buddy
- ✓ I could go to reception



Quiz



Answer the questions . The first letter of each answer makes up two words. Can you solve the puzzle?

1. Look at Week 1 of the example timetable. On Wednesday, period 4 you will need your P.E. kit for - - - - -.
2. Look on page 3. You could be feeling - - - - - - - -.
3. Look on page 6. You will have a form - - - - -.
4. Look at Week 1 of the example timetable. On Friday, period 4 the lesson is - -.
5. Look at Week 2 of the example timetable. On Tuesday, period 2 the lesson is - - - - - - - -.
6. On your visit to secondary school you could - - - questions.
7. Page 10 is called my first - - -.
8. This booklet is to help - - - on your transition to secondary school.