



Dear new Year 7

First of all, as new and old Head Boy and Head Girl, we would like to welcome you all to Dene Magna. The transition from Primary to Secondary School may feel quite daunting, especially in this current situation but hopefully, we will try to ease some of your worries and concerns.

One of your first worries may be to do with getting to and from school by bus. In preparation for your first day, make sure that you know where your bus stop is and what time the bus leaves, we'd recommend getting there 5 minutes beforehand. Each of the buses that run from our school has a sign in the front window showing which route it is. However, if you can't see the bus sign you can always ask the bus drivers as they are friendly and will be used to it. After a while, the drivers will recognise new students and they will not leave without you. Also, don't forget to keep your bus pass to hand (if you do lose it speak to reception).

Each day starts with RFL in your tutor group, which will be made up of students within your house from your year group. This time allows your tutor to register your group and ensure you're ready for learning (RFL). Ready for learning is a check done by your tutor to make sure you're fully equipped for the day with a reading book, your planner, and your pencil case. This is also an opportunity to talk to your tutor about the day ahead and for you to do any preparations for lessons and catch up on homework. You will get to know the people within your tutor group very well as for the majority of lessons in Year 7, you will remain in the same group.

There are many differences between Primary and Secondary school. One of the biggest transitions is that older students will be roaming the hallways. This can be a bit intimidating at first, but you can rest assured all the older students are very friendly and welcoming.

Another change is that Dene Magna is likely to be much larger than your primary school, many of you may feel you'll get lost on your first day, we all did! But before you know it you'll know the school like the back of your hand. However if you are lost in school, you can always ask fellow students who will be glad to help.

We hope this letter helps ease some of your worries about the transition to Dene Magna, see below for a few simple things to help when you start in September. And remember, we're here to help.

Dan, Evie, Maisy and Cobi

A few simple tips to help you get started...

1. The older students can seem scary but they were once Year 7 too so understand how you feel, feel free to ask them anything.
2. Getting lost... the school isn't actually as big as it seems, there will always be people to help you such as senior students and all the staff, never be afraid to ask.
3. If you are starting the school without many of your friends from your primary school, don't worry... there are so many other students in the same position. Why not join a club as a fun way to make friends.
4. Getting on the wrong bus... don't worry it happens just speak to the driver and they will be happy to help. If you're still stuck, there are always members of staff on duty to help to find your way.
5. If you ever have an issue with anything speak to your tutor...that's what they're there for.
6. If ever you lose something, check the cubby holes (where all the lost and found is collected), ask at reception or ask your tutor to ping out an email.
7. When wandering about, go with the flow of the traffic...stick to the left, it helps if you follow your class as you'll all be heading to the same place most of the time.
8. Try to remember to be fully equipt all the time, this will save you hassle and ensure you can go ahead with your lessons, stress free. If for some reason this isn't the case, speak to your tutor and they may be able to lend you some equipment for the day.
9. If for whatever reason you arrive late to a lesson, calmly explain to your teacher and apologise... it happens so try not to worry, just don't make it a habit.
10. Enjoy it, school is meant to be fun. Take part in clubs and activities.. it truly is well worth it!

If you have any questions, you can find all of our emails below. Feel free to ping us an email whenever you need, we've been in your position!

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