WHAT WILL SECONDARY SCHOOL BE LIKE?



Name:

……

My secondary school is:

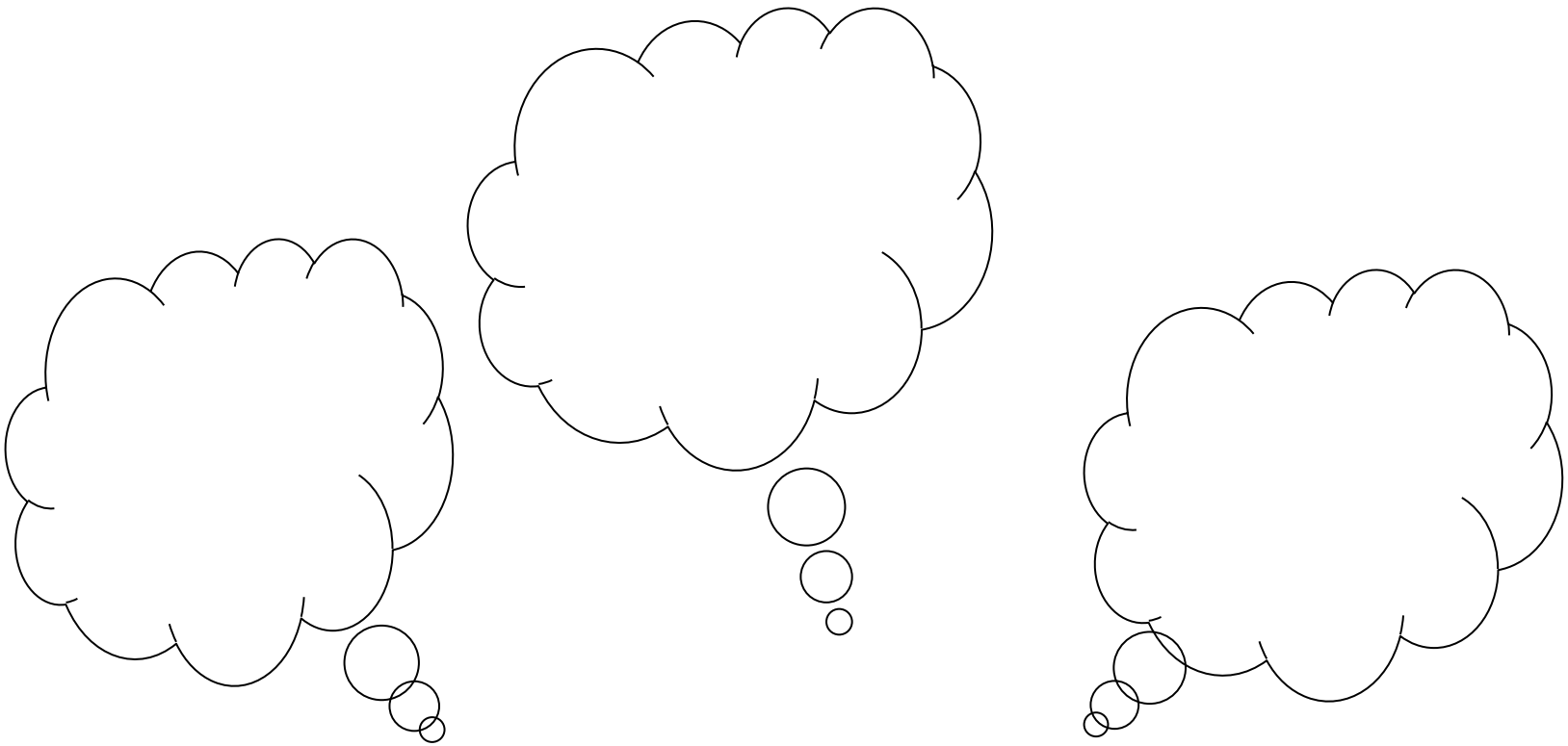
……

My primary school is:

……

Compiled by Royal Greenwich Autism Outreach Service

Thoughts about starting secondary school



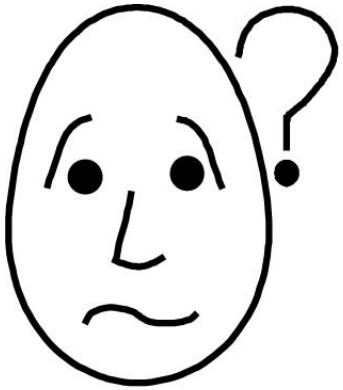
How do you feel about starting secondary school ?

What have you heard about secondary schools from other children?

What are you looking forward to at your new secondary school?



Do you have any worries about starting secondary school?



You can talk to someone you feel comfortable with about these things if you want to.

Lots of children spread rumours about secondary school. Try to remember that these are usually **not true.**

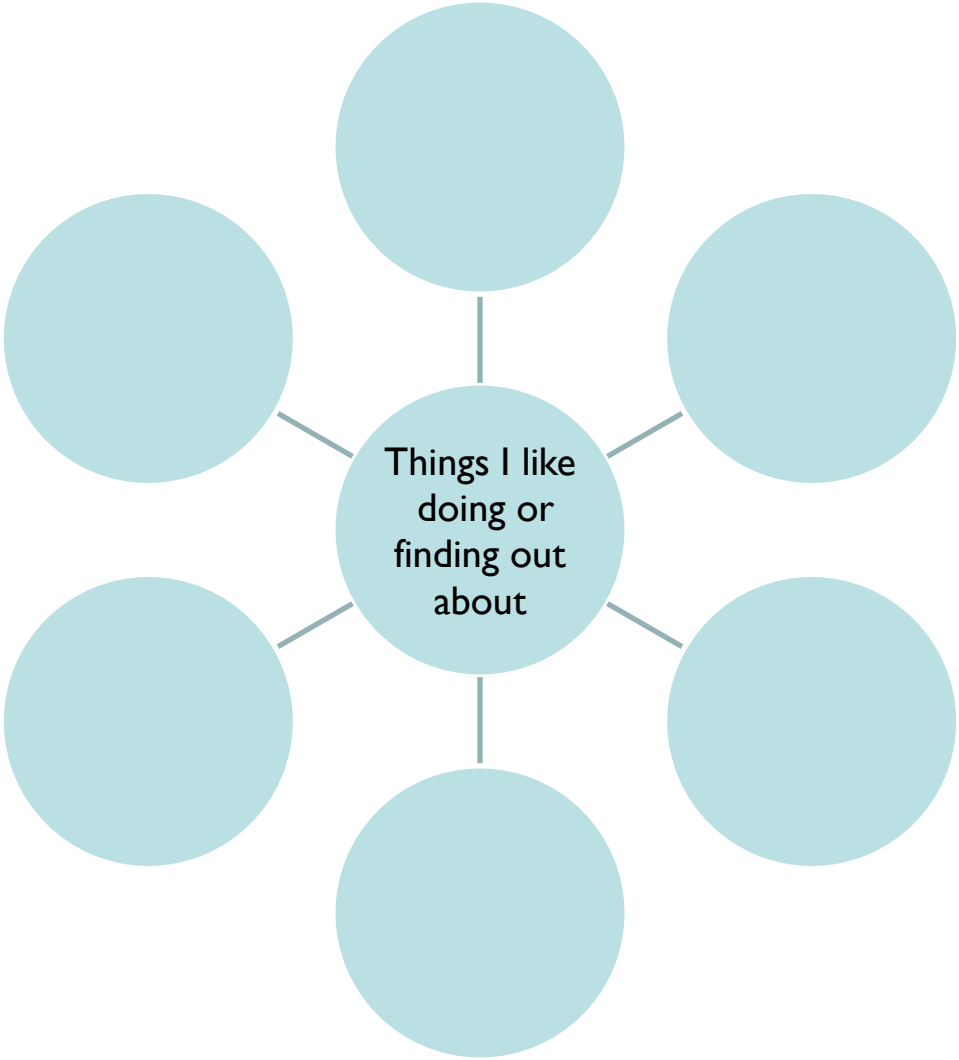
Making Friends



- There will be many more people at your new school than there are at primary school.
- You may already know some students who are going to the same secondary school but you will also be meeting lots of new people. Some of these may become your friends.
- It takes time to make friends.
- We often make friends with people who have similar interests.

What are your interests or hobbies?

My Interests



Getting Organised

- When you start at the new school, you will need a school bag.
- Make a list of the things that will need to go in there:

- You will also have a **school planner** which is like a diary.
- This will have your timetable and lots of other useful information in it to help you throughout the day.
- This is where you write your homework.

Things I need at school every day:

1. My planner.
2. Books for each subject today.
3. You may need to bring your PE kit
4. Pencil case with pens, pencils and a ruler.
5. You may also need house keys and a mobile phone.
6. Packed lunch if you are not having school dinners.

Your timetable

Your day will be different at secondary school.

- You will have different teachers for different subjects.
- You will move to different rooms for different subjects.
- To help you to know what subjects you have every day you will have a timetable.
- The timetable will show the lesson, the teacher's name and the room you need to go to.
- At first, you may feel a bit worried about finding your way around the school. All the year 7 children will feel the same. Try not to worry as you will soon get used to the layout of the school.

What about lessons ?

Your new teachers will explain what you have to do in lessons.

Usually you need to put your planner, subject books and pencil case on your desk and then put your school bag on the floor under the desk.

- To show that you are listening you can:

Look toward the speaker	Sit up	Listen and follow instructions

- If you do not understand what to do, you can **put your hand up** to **ASK** the teacher or teaching assistant.
- At the end of the lesson, you will need to pack away your belongings in your bag before you leave the classroom and go to your next lesson.
- For some lessons like PE , DT and Science there may be different routines and your teacher will explain what you are expected to do at the beginning of the lesson.

What if people are unkind to me?

Some people spread rumours that there are bullies in secondary school. A rumour is information that is spread that is often untrue.

Older children can sometimes be unkind. It is not very nice. They might be teasing. This can be part of growing up. It is important to know how to handle this if it happens.

All schools both primary and secondary have a zero tolerance to bullying. This means that there are tough consequences for anyone being unkind.

It is important that you talk to a member of staff, your parents or a friend if you experience anyone being unkind to you. The staff will need to know what happened and will talk to the other children involved.

Homework

This is one of the biggest changes from your primary school. You will be expected to do more homework than you do now.

Sometimes homework is given to;

- Finish off work given in class.
- Practise something you have just learnt.
- Revise for a test.
- Find out about something new.

Make sure that you have written the correct information into your planner.

An adult in the classroom can help you to do this if necessary.

Check that you understand what you have to do before you leave school that day – you can ask the teacher to explain if you are unsure or don't understand.

Homework ideas for home

- Try to find a quiet place to do your homework.
- Set yourself a time to complete the work for each subject. Usually this is about half an hour.
- After 30 minutes of working have a break and then continue with the next piece of homework.
- There is no right or wrong way to do your homework. Find out what is best for you.
- Some schools have homework clubs at lunch time or after school, where you can complete your homework. There are often people there who can help if you want them to.

Tips for a good start to secondary school

1. Pack your bag the night before, with the things you will need for the next day.



2. Keep a copy of your timetable at home

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Science Mr Smith S6	English Literature Mr Brown E2	IT Mr Fox IT2	IT Mr Fox IT2	PE Mrs Mark Gym
Maths Mrs George M10	Religion & Soc Mrs Baker R4	Religion & Soc Mrs Baker R4	Maths Mrs George M10	PE Mrs. Mark Gym
Tutor Mr Green S6	Tutor Mr Green S6	Tutor Mr green S6	Tutor Mr Green S6	Tutor Mr Green S6
English Language Mr Brown E4	Learning for Life Mrs Grange SS1	Maths Mrs George M10	Science Mr Smith S6	Personal/Social Mrs Keys SS1
Personal/Social Mrs Keys SS1	Learning for Life Mrs Grange SS1	History Mr Jones H2	English Literature Mr Brown E2	Science Mr Smith S6
Personal/Social Mrs Keys SS1	Science Mr Smith S6	History Mr Jones H2	English Literature Mr Brown E2	English Language Mr Brown E4

3. Try to complete your homework on the day that it is set.



What else do I need to know?

- During the summer term, you may get the chance to visit your secondary school. This depends on the whether the school is able to arrange this safely.
- You will be able to ask questions at your visit. You could write some here to help you remember……
- If you are unable to visit, you can still ask these questions, either to Wendy Jones (via email) or to your primary school or if possible, directly to the secondary school. They are working hard to organise opportunities for the year 6 children to talk to them.

Once you start at your secondary school, you may have lots more questions. This is OK. The staff will be used to helping the children in year 7.

Try to remember:

- ***Your new teachers don't expect you to know everything.***
- ***They know that you may have difficulties finding your way around the school.***
- ***They know that primary school is quite different to secondary school and it might take you a bit of time to get used to it.***
- ***They want you to feel happy and safe at school. They will be able to help you if you talk to them about the things that you might be worried about.***

Good Luck ☺

But before you begin your new school .....

Enjoy the holidays! ☺