

Dear Year 6's,

A year ago I felt the same way as you might be feeling now. I was apprehensive about starting secondary school, worried about making new friends and anxious about getting lost around the different buildings but I was also excited and ready for the new challenges at AGGS.

I would say to myself now that there was no need to worry. There are 6th formers to show you round, you'll be given a booklet with all the information you need for Y7 and in your planner which you get on your first day there is a map. There are 29 others in your form so you will make new friends and there are lots of clubs at lunchtime and after school where you can make friends from different forms.

Your Form Tutor is always there if you need some advice or help and they are all really supportive.

You will also have 6th form mentors who come in every Wednesday in form time and do team games.

Here are my top tips for starting at AGGS:

- Get involved with as many lunchtime and after school clubs as you can to make friends and try new opportunities. If you like sport go to the trials at the beginning of term and keep going to training even if you don't get picked. Joining a sports team will help you gain confidence, keep fit, meet new friends from other forms and you'll have matches on a Saturday morning.
- Buy a locker key that has a key not the number combination.
- Remember the 4 digit door code to enter the buildings.
- Write all your homework in your planner and try and do it on the day that you get given it.
- Speak to everyone in your form at Rec and lunch. Your friends might change from the first day but that's normal.
- Enjoy every minute of the Glaramara residential. The ghyll scrambling is freezing.
- Always ask for help if you need it. Mr Lovelady, your form tutor and all the teachers will help you.
- Buy comfortable school shoes as there's a lot of walking and going up stairs!
- Make sure you buy a waterproof rucksack so your books don't get wet.

I hope this letter makes you feel better about starting at AGGS in September.

Enjoy your last weeks in Year 6 and the summer holidays even though we're in lockdown.

Yours sincerely

Grace