

Welcome to Year 7 at Bexley Grammar School



Parent Information Guide – September 2026

Helping every student become the very best version of themselves

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are delighted that your child will be joining Bexley Grammar School and becoming part of our school community. Starting secondary school is an exciting milestone and we understand that this transition represents a significant change for both students and families.

Our aim is to work in partnership with you over the next five years to ensure that every student achieves their academic potential, develops independence and grows into a confident, kind and responsible young person.

This guide provides some key information to help you and your child prepare for the start of Year 7.

Your Year 7 Team

As Director of Studies for Year 7, I will work closely with your child throughout their time at BGS, supporting both their academic progress and personal development.

My role is to:

- support students in achieving their academic potential
- help students develop independence and strong learning habits
- oversee the pastoral support available to the year group

I am supported by our Senior Academic Mentor, Year 7 tutors and the wider pastoral team.

Your child's form tutor will be their first point of contact for day-to-day questions or concerns. They will see students regularly and play an important role in helping them settle into life at BGS.

We are fortunate to have an experienced and committed Year 7 team who are looking forward to welcoming your child.

Starting Secondary School – What to Expect

The move to secondary school brings many exciting opportunities but also requires students to become increasingly independent.

Students will need to:

- move between classrooms for different lessons
- organise their own equipment
- manage homework deadlines
- communicate with different teachers
- take greater responsibility for their learning

During the first few weeks, we will support students in developing these important routines.

A simple but effective habit is encouraging your child to **pack their school bag the night before** so they arrive prepared and ready to learn.

A Typical Day at BGS

Students should arrive ready for registration by **8:30am**. Before this time, students can access the library, canteen facilities or social areas.

The school day consists of seven 50-minute lessons. Students will move between classrooms for lessons and will be supported in learning the routines of secondary school.

The day includes:

	Week A					Week B				
	M	Tu	W	Th	F	M	Tu	W	Th	F
1	Science	French	French	French	Latin	Science	French	French	French	Latin
2	Art	PE	Science	Comp	FBCS	Music	PE	Science	Comp	FBCS
AcMon /break			House					House		
3	Geog	English	Geog	English	PE	Geog	English	Geog	English	PE
4	Music	Maths	Maths	Drama	Science	Music	Maths	PE	Drama	Science
5	LUNCH									
6	Maths	Science	Maths	History	English	Maths	Science	Maths	History	English
7	History	Art	English	French	DT	History	Art	English	French	DT

Year 7 students receive additional support when accessing the canteen during their first weeks to help them become familiar with the routine.

Students finish after Period 7. For safeguarding reasons, students should leave the school site by 4:00pm unless they are attending a supervised activity, club or using the library for homework.

Organisation and Equipment

Developing good organisation skills is an important part of Year 7.

Students should arrive each day with:

- school planner
- pencil case and full equipment - please see the information that has been provided.
- correct books
- PE kit when required - in a named PE bag.

Students will use planners to record homework and communicate between home and school. Parents are asked to check and sign planners weekly.

Lockers will be allocated during the first few weeks of term. Students will need to provide their own lock either combination or key.

Please ensure that all uniform, PE kit and personal belongings are **clearly labelled with your child's name**.

Learning at BGS

At BGS, we want students to become independent and enthusiastic learners.

We encourage students to:

- ask questions in lesson & be curious inquirers
- participate actively in lessons
- think critically
- reflect on their progress
- challenge themselves
- principled members of the community
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Students will use Google Classroom to support learning, although this is not a homework platform.

Our Expectations

BGS has high expectations because we believe every student deserves the best possible education.

Uniform

Students should:

- wear full school uniform
- wear correct school shoes no trainers
- wear blazers around the school building
- ensure all items are clearly labelled

Jewellery is not permitted in line with our uniform expectations.

Behaviour

Students are expected to:

- show respect towards others
- support a positive learning environment
- make responsible choices

Where mistakes occur, students will be encouraged to reflect and learn from their actions.

Punctuality

Being on time is essential. Students should arrive promptly to school, registration and lessons to maximise learning opportunities.

Engagement

We encourage students to become fully involved in school life through lessons, clubs, activities and opportunities beyond the classroom.

Supporting Student Wellbeing

We recognise that starting secondary school can feel exciting and challenging. A strong support network is available to ensure students feel safe and supported.

This includes:

- Year 7 tutors
- Pastoral team
- Safeguarding team
- SEAN department

- Sixth Form peer mentors
- Lunchtime support activities

Students are encouraged to speak to staff whenever they need support.

Opportunities Beyond the Classroom

Life at BGS extends beyond lessons. We encourage all students to become involved in the wider school community.

Opportunities include:

- sports teams and activities
- music groups
- drama productions
- subject clubs
- creative activities
- House competitions
- educational visits

These opportunities help students develop new interests, build friendships and become part of the wider BGS community.

Communication Between Home and School

Successful education depends on a strong partnership between home and school.

Parents will receive:

- weekly newsletters
- progress reports
- opportunities to meet teachers

Please contact your child's tutor or the Year 7 team if there are concerns or information we need to be aware of.

If your child is absent from school, please notify the Attendance Office by **8:30am**.

We also encourage parents to support their child's growing independence by:

- encouraging them to organise their own equipment
- discussing homework routines
- checking planners regularly
- creating positive study habits at home
- ensuring they have enough sleep and a healthy routine

Preparing for September

Over the summer, please encourage your child to:

- ✓ Practise their journey to school
- ✓ Organise their own school equipment
- ✓ Learn to manage their belongings
- ✓ Practise changing independently for PE
- ✓ Label all uniform and equipment

The first few weeks may feel tiring as students adjust to a longer day and new routines. This is completely normal and we will work closely with students to help them settle.

A Final Welcome

We are incredibly excited to welcome your child to Bexley Grammar School.

Together, we will support them to achieve success, develop confidence and become responsible citizens in a global world.

We look forward to working with you and your child over the next five years.

Welcome to BGS.