

Our Key stage 3 students have been thinking back to their beginnings at BGS. What worried them before they started? How did they find the settling in process? Maybe you recognise a few of their initial feelings in yourself...

Take a look!

When I first came, I felt anxious and worried that I wouldn't fit in and that I wouldn't find my way around the school. Then as time passed, I was so happy to be here, I made lots of friends and had fun. A few more weeks passed and everything was amazing about the school and it still is. The homework was hard at first but eventually you will get used to it.

Nathan

During the last few days of the last summer holidays you wouldn't believe how nervous I was to start Borden, since I had never experienced moving schools before and I was going with nobody from my primary school. The truth is there really is nothing much to worry about! My main fear was that I would get lost around the building and not be able to find the right classroom, but on your first day your form tutor stays with your class and gives you a tour until you are certain about your surroundings. Also, if there is a time you don't know where to go you can follow your class because you have the same class for every subject. It was only after the first two days I knew my way around the whole school. Another fear that I had was that I wouldn't fit in with the rest of the class, especially since I started without any of my primary friends, but over time you know your class a lot better and you all find your own ways to make each other laugh and have fun. My final main fear was that because there are six years above you, sometimes they can be quite intimidating but it's all ok, although the corridors do get quite busy sometimes! There are many positives at Borden Grammar, my favourite subjects at Borden are French and Spanish, I have found so many new friends, my teachers are really nice and most importantly the waffles in the canteen are the best!

Harrison

When I was a year 6 due to start at Borden Grammar, I had mixed feelings. Firstly, I was ecstatic that I had managed to get into Borden Grammar; all the hard work had paid off. However, I also had some fears which were based around catching the bus to school, the amount of homework I would be required to do and making new friends.

The Bus

Not only did I realise I knew people on the bus, within a few days I had made friends in my form group who also caught the same bus. This helped greatly with my anxiety around the travel.

Homework

At the start I heard rumours of hours of homework being set each day. This turned out not be true, and although sometimes I am set a big piece of homework, it is not every day. I try and keep on top of my homework but completing tasks as they are set, this avoids a homework build up!

Making new friends

I had built up nerves around meeting the Year 7's, but after a short while I noticed it is easy to make friends, especially in your form group. It has given me the opportunity to meet new people and have a new friendship group.

Tyler

Before coming to Borden, I felt the adrenaline of being worried and excited at the same time. On my first day of school I remember sitting in 4 lines of our forms but I didn't know anyone except for one person. We went to class and I sat on the end of a row next to someone I didn't know. In the next ten seconds I hear a hello come from my left. Now me not being the most social person I said hello back and turned to face our form tutor. Then he said, "what is your name?". 10 minutes later I had a new best friend, Ally. Through the whole day I was happy talking to Ally and having really good lessons. At the end of the day I was so excited to go back to school the next day and see my friends again. And now I'm very happy I came to Borden because the atmosphere is always good. I know it is easier said than done but just don't be worried because the teachers will help you and friends make amazing.

Charlie

I am sure the prospect of starting Borden is daunting for you like it was for me and my classmates this time last year. Here are some of the things you might be worried about.

You might be worried about travelling to school by yourself as I was at the start. I walk to school and I have to cross Park Road which is a busy road but after a couple of weeks I got used to it and soon it did not bother me. You just need to take your time crossing a road like that.

You also might be nervous about losing books and PE kits and other important things. I was worried a bit by this because on the last day at my Primary school my year 6 teacher found FIVE jumpers that belonged to me in the classroom that I had lost during the year! She also used to complain that I left my guitar and hockey stick laying around in her classroom. However, so far I have not lost anything because I learnt to put things in the right place! I only bring in what I need each day and use my locker.

Leaving homework until the last minute is something that lots of people -including me - are anxious about when they start school. I got into a routine when I did one hour of homework after dinner on most days. People think there is loads of homework every day at Borden but there actually is not as much per day as you might think so long as you don't let it build up. You just need to find your own routine that fits in with the things that you do outside of school.

See you soon at your new school!

Alex