



The Crossley Heath School

WELCOME TO YOUR SECONDARY SCHOOL



'Crossley Heath is an amazing place. The teachers are helpful and lovely and other students are polite and friendly. I have made lots of new friends.'

(Crossley Heath Student)



Welcome

Welcome to The Crossley Heath School. We hope that you will enjoy your new school journey with us. We are excited to welcome you into our community and hope that you take every opportunity that is offered to you whilst here. It is a friendly and vibrant school with plenty to get involved in both in and outside of your lessons.

Our school has an amazing history with the original Heath Grammar School being established in 1585 when Queen Elizabeth 1st was on the throne! The current building was built by the Crossley Brothers in 1861 to support orphaned children and has had plenty of modern additions over the years including our sports hall. We pride ourselves on supporting smart, respectful young people who are ready to make a positive difference to the world.

We hope you are excited to be coming to our school and are looking forward to September.

Transition Day

Welcoming new Year 7 students to The Crossley Heath School community is always very special. At this time we are still waiting to find out if the government guidance will allow us to go ahead with a face to face Transition Day here at school on Friday 2nd July. Transition Day is always an enjoyable, exciting and vibrant event that we look forward to every year. So we really hope that the Covid restrictions will be lifted to allow us to go ahead. We will keep you informed of our plans for your transition so make sure that you watch out for new information going on our website pages.

<https://crossleyheath.org.uk/transition-to-year7/>



*It is really fun, have
a go at anything new*

The Crossley Heath School



The House System

In school we have a thriving house system. You will be placed in either Saville, Porter, Queens or Kings House. In each form there will be students from every house. You can recognize which house somebody is in by the colour of the stripes in their school tie. Saville is blue, Kings is yellow, Queens is red and Porter is green. We now have an online 'House Shop' where you can purchase house clothing such as hoodies and t-shirts. The house system is an important part of school life. There are many competitions in school where you can earn points for your house which all contribute towards the School House Competition. The winning house at the end of the year is presented with the House Cup in our final whole school celebration assembly.



Merits

The real reward for doing well in school and trying your best will be better grades. However you can also earn merits in school by having a good attitude to your learning and completing work to the best of your ability. You also earn merits in a number of other ways that have a positive impact on school life. By having a great attitude to learning and gaining a high number of merits you can receive celebration postcards, learning badges, vouchers and rewards such as opportunities to go on trips. Merits also contribute to the overall house points system.

After a few weeks, I felt really settled and happy.



Summer project

In preparation for starting at Crossley Heath we would like you take part in a summer project. One task will be to read a book of your choice and produce a short review of the story. The other task will be to produce a collage about yourself and what is important to you. These will be used on your first day of school when the new school year begins during tutor time. You only need to share things you are comfortable with people knowing. It's a great way for others to get to know you and for you to learn about the other students in your form. You may find some new friends with similar interests. More information about the summer project will be available on the school website.

The School Planner

The school planner is a very important item. It will be the place where you keep vital information for school such as your timetable and what homework you have got. It is the main communication tool between your teachers and parents. It is important that it is kept neat and in good condition. It is very important that you get used to using it, to help you stay organised. You could look at what lessons you have the next day and get your books ready the night before, for example.

It also has reminders about school rules and a bunch of other useful information too. You will get your own planner on your first day in the new

The planner really helps me to stay organised. Without it I'd definitely forget things...



Rules

Rules are very important for schools. Not only do they keep everyone safe and ensure that learning can take place but they are also important for the orderly running of the school. There are a lot of people in school and we all need to follow the same rules. You may not understand the purpose of some of the rules, but please trust us, they are there for a reason. Most of the rules are common sense and are standard to all schools. Others may be specific to our school such as where you can or cannot go at break and lunchtime. Above all we expect you to follow our rules and be respectful to all members of our community, be smartly dressed and punctual.

Your form tutor will go through the school rules with you during transition. If you are unsure, ask your tutor, a teacher or another student.

Opportunities

One of our main aims is to help develop well-rounded, confident students. Getting involved in the many student leader or extra-curricular opportunities is a great way to build your confidence and skills. At Crossley Heath we have a range of activities to try including sports clubs, trips in the UK and abroad, house activities, music, reading, drama, debating, technology, academic enrichment, charity events, student leadership, school council and many more. We find our happiest and most successful students are those that get involved and take an active part in school life beyond the class room.

I enjoyed being part of the House Drama. It was great fun and I met loads of new people...



Don't worry! Some advice from previous Year 7 students

- 1. Getting lost and being late: Don't worry.** We will provide you with a map, do a tour of the school and all the staff and students will help you if you are lost. Your teachers will understand if you are a little late due to being lost in the first few weeks. However, It's a good idea to use your planner so you know what lessons you have and ensure you go there a little early, before the end of break and lunch time so you are on time for your lessons.
- 2. Homework: Don't worry.** Firstly there is no homework for the first few weeks. After that you just need to make sure that you understand what to do and use your planner to make sure you are organised. It is a good idea to do your homework as soon as you can and not leave it to the last minute. Homework shouldn't be rushed if you want to make the most progress. Having a timetable for homework that you stick to is a really good way of managing you're your work sensibly.
- 3. Buses/getting to and from school: Don't worry.** Firstly, make sure you know where to get the bus from in the morning and that you are there in good time. Afterschool, staff are there to help you get the right bus. Buses can be noisy, it's important to remember to stay in your seat during the journey. Some practise during the summer holidays is a good idea.
- 4. Progress: Don't worry.** You have done really well to get into a grammar school. Your progress will be monitored by teachers via assessments and will be reported home. Don't worry about how other people are doing. All you can do is ensure that your attitude to your learning is the best it can be and you will continue to progress and get excellent grades.
- 5. Friends: Don't worry.** You will meet lots of new people. It's important to be kind and respectful. That way you are sure to make new friends that may last for the rest of your life.



Year 7: Activity Day!

Soon after you start school we hope that you will have an opportunity with the rest of your year group to spend a day taking part in fun team building and problem solving activities. This may help you get to know some people in your form and house a little better as well as improve your communication, team work and problem solving skills. It is a really fun and enjoyable day. We hope that restrictions allow us to go this year.

Sharing your transition with your family

Starting secondary school is a big change for you and your family. The people who love and support you at home will be wanting to know that you are ok and will probably be asking you lots of questions about it. Although you may feel tired, try to recognise that your family may be worried for you and are hoping that you settle in quickly and make some new friends. Talk to them about your day, who you have met and what you have done.

Stay Positive

Some people take longer than others to settle into secondary school. It is natural to miss your primary school and your old friends there. If you are feeling sad in school talk to a friend, your form tutor or pastoral leader, they will help you. Try to think positively about school. Think about what you like and what you are looking forward to rather than the things you may find difficult or the things you miss about primary school. You will soon get used to life at Crossley Heath. Remember there is always help if you need it.

Crossley Heath Commitments

At the start of each term, you will choose 3 commitments that you will aim to achieve. These commitments link with the school vision and values. Whether you take part in a national competition, spend time at lunch helping to keep the school tidy, become a volunteer for school events or take part in the many house competitions, you will be contributing positively to our community by upholding our values: Self Belief—Respect—Purpose—Responsibility—Challenge—Aspiration

Internet Safety

As you get older you may find that you are using the internet more often for school work, finding information and socialising. The internet can be a great way to research and communicate but it also contains 'fake news', unreliable information and people who can say or do hurtful things. We have a full Internet Safety Programme in school which includes fully trained Student Digital Leaders that can help you stay safe online. You may want to become a digital leader too so you can help others. You can find information on how to stay safe online via www.thinkyouknow.co.uk. We ask you to think carefully about who you share your number with and think before you post a message or picture online.

Well Being Team

We want all our students to be happy and resilient. Growing into a teenager and then into a young adult can sometimes be difficult. There are often challenges in life that can affect our well being. It is important to know that we have a group of adults in school that can help you find the advice and support you may need no matter what the problem is. If you are facing a difficult problem, all you need to do is to speak to your form tutor or another member of the Pastoral Team such as Mr Davis or Mrs Griggs and we will work with you to solve the problem.

Key members of staff.

There are lots of staff that work in a secondary school and it is impossible to know who all of them are and what they all do. There are teachers, Department Leaders, Progress Leaders, Pastoral Leaders, Assistant and Deputy Head Teachers, the Head Teacher, Technicians, Administration Teams, catering Staff, Mid Day Supervisors and more!. Your form tutor is probably the most important member of staff for you to know as not only will you see them every day, they are there to make sure that you are looked after, prepared and settled. If there is a problem, they are the first person you should see. **Don't worry!** All of our staff are there to help you. Here are some members of staff you are likely to meet.

Mrs Cassidy:

Is the Head Teacher of the school. You will meet her during transition around school and in assemblies.



Mr Chesters:

Is Assistant Head in charge of behaviour and pastoral support.



Mr Davis:

Is the Progress Leader for Year 7 and SENCo.

Mrs Griggs and Mr O'Connor:

Are Pastoral Leaders. They are there to help you solve any problems that you may have in school.



A message from your form tutor

7A - Mrs Todde-Wilson

Hello 7A!

I bet that looks strange to you but you will be a year 7 soon. The A stands for "awesome" because, of course, we will be the most awesome form in year 7!

My name is Mrs Todde-Wilson and I have been a teacher of English at Crossley Heath for a very, very long time. I guess that says a lot about the school: I came here and didn't want to go anywhere else. I'm certain you will feel the same way about your new school.

We will have an opportunity to get to know each other soon but feel free to e-mail me if you have any queries (you can contact Reception and they will pass your message on).

I can let you know a little about myself so you know what to expect: I like reading, comedy on TV and the radio, being in the great outdoors, gardening and spending time with my family and my cats. I can't wait to get to meet you all! Looking forward to September...



7B - Miss Gillespie

Hi 7B

My name is Miss Gillespie and I am going to be your form tutor when you start at Crossley Heath in September. I have been teaching at Crossley's for 12 years, as the Head of Geography and I just know you are going to love the school as much as I do.



Being a form teacher is one of the favourite parts of my job and I can't wait to meet you. My first aim is to help you settle in to life at Crossley Heath and then continue to give you help, support and guidance throughout year and beyond.

In my spare time, I enjoy travelling (I am obsessed with waterfalls) and also watching my favourite football team Huddersfield Town. I am really looking forward to meeting you and helping you with your transition to Crossley Heath.

Miss Gillespie

7C - Ms Grossova

Hi 7C

My name is Ms Grossova and I am so excited to be your form tutor as you begin your journey here at Crossley Heath. I'm sure you are excited but nervous about coming to your new school but I want to reassure you of two things. One, our school is a fantastic place to be with so many different opportunities for you to get involved in. Two, I will be right here helping you along the way as your form tutor. My job is to make sure you are happy at school and to help you to overcome any difficulties you might have.

So a little bit about me before I find out more about you. I have been teaching for a staggering 30 years in a variety of different schools but this school is by far my favourite, I have been here for 5 years now and can honestly say I love working in the fabulous MFL Department as Teacher of German and love teaching the wonderful students that come here. Outside of school, I have two teenage daughters and spend a great deal of time with them, walking, visiting friends and family, eating out and going to concerts and the cinema. My main hobby (rekindled during lockdown) is art. I enjoy painting portraits, landscapes and slightly more abstract work. I love reading and watching movies and that is how I tend to relax after a busy day. My girls and have 2 cats, who are really hilarious at times and keep us amused with their crazy antics.



Ms Grossova

For now, enjoy the rest of the year at your primary school. I'm sure that you will all have lots of fun things happening towards the end of the term. I'll see you at the transition events soon.



7D - Mrs Ryan

Hello 7D

My name is Mrs Ryan and this is my 10th year of teaching at Crossley Heath. I have been a Year 7 and 8 form tutor for each of those years and am very much looking forward to becoming your new form tutor. I teach Science to Year 7 and 8 and then teach Chemistry for Key Stage 4 and 5 so I'm sure teach you too during your time at here at Crossley Heath.

Outside school, I have played Rugby League since I was 6 years old and still play today. I have spent a lot of time training and playing and have managed to play at a high level. I am a massive Huddersfield Giants fan and go to as many games as I can both home and away (covid allowing!).

Welcome to Crossley Heath 7D. I look forward to meeting you all and getting to know you. See you at the transition events

Mrs Ryan

7E - Mrs Potter

Hello everybody,

My name is Mrs Potter and I'm going to be your Year 7 form tutor. I am really looking forward to meeting you all and helping you to settle into our fabulous school. My background is in teaching Modern Foreign Languages but I came to work at Crossley Heath 5 years ago as a Cover Supervisor, this means that when any of your teachers are absent you will probably have me teaching your lesson!

When I have some free time I love to be outside, walking in the countryside or running, well jogging really! I enjoy going to the gym, reading, gardening and meeting up with friends for a coffee and a chat... I am looking forward to September and to welcoming you all to The Crossley Heath School.

Keep well for now.

Mrs Potter



7F - Mr Brown

Hello 7F,

I'm Mr Brown, I will be your form tutor from September this year. Firstly, welcome to the school and congratulations on getting your place. I'm sure you can't wait to start. I can remember being in your position, when I started year 7 at North Halifax Grammar School, feeling a mixture of excitement and apprehension. However, rest assured, you will soon settle in, make new friends, and feel more comfortable here.



Just a little bit about myself.... Whilst at school, I became very interested in Mathematics and its applications, which led me to undertake a degree in Mechanical Engineering at Newcastle University. After graduating, I decided to travel the world, working within a range of industries in New Zealand, France, and the USA. After this, I returned to the UK and decided to go into teaching to share my knowledge and passion for Mathematics, as well as my life experiences.

I have worked at Crossley Heath for just a couple of years, but have quickly got to grips with the ins and outs of life here, so I will be able to answer any questions you have when you start. I'm looking forward to meeting you all and helping you through this new experience!

You may have more questions, I'm sure some of you do. If you have then please feel free to email me on c.davis@crossleyheath.org.uk

In the meantime please remember to check out our Transition to Year 7 website pages for updated information. Go to www.crossleyheath.org.uk and click on Transition to Year 7 from the school information drop down menu.

We are hoping that you are looking forward to the next stage of your education and life here with us at Crossley Heath. Enjoy your transition.

We look forward to welcoming you as a Crossley Heath School student.

**Key dates to remember:
Friday 2nd July—Transition Day**

