



## The Crossley Heath School

*Welcome To Your New 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. We are a friendly and vibrant school with an amazingly diverse community and 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 1597 when Queen Elizabeth 1st was on the throne! The current building was built by the Crossley Brothers and in 1864 opened to educate orphaned children. Since then it 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 Crossley Heath and

## Transition Day

Welcoming new Year 7 students to our community is always very special. Your Transition Day will take place on Monday 4th July. Transition Day is always an enjoyable, exciting and vibrant event that we look forward to every year. You will experience a full school day here with us. You will meet your new form tutor and the other students in your form, have a tour of the school so that you can find your way around, meet some important members of staff and of course, experience your very first lessons at your new school.

You will find lots more information about joining the school on the link below ...Have a look!

<https://crossleyheath.org.uk/>



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

**The Crossley Heath School**



## The House System

Welcome to our thriving house system! You will be a member of 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 buy house clothing such as hoodies and t-shirts. The house system is an important part of school life. There are many competitions where you can earn points for your house which all contribute towards the school House Cup Competition. The winning house at the end of the year is presented with the House Cup in our final whole school celebration assembly.



## House Points/Merits

The real reward for doing well in school and trying your best will be good progress. However, you will earn house points in school by having a good attitude to your learning and completing work to the best of your ability. You will also earn points 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 house points you will receive celebration postcards, learning badges, vouchers and rewards such as opportunities to go on trips. House points also contribute to the overall House Cup competition.

*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 Induction Day when the new school year for Year 7 begins. 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 should 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 other useful information. You will get your own planner on your first day in the new school year.

*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 leadership 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, visits 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 classroom.

*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 your work sensibly especially if you have other time commitments to fit in too.

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. After school, staff are there to help you get the right bus. It's important to remember to stay in your seat during the journey. Some practise during the summer holidays is a good idea if you can.

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.

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.

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*When I had a problem, the teachers helped me to solve it quickly. I felt much better*



## **Year 7: Visits/Enrichment Experiences**

In Year 7 you will have the opportunity to go on a number of visits and take part in other experiences that will support your personal development. In the first term here, you will have a Visual Arts trip to the Yorkshire Sculpture Park and a visit to Fountains Abbey, part of your History studies, where you dress up as a medieval monk!

## **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 want to know that you are ok and will probably ask 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 support the school values and your personal development. 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 that can help you stay safe online. You can find information on how to stay safe online via [www.thinkyouknow.co.uk](http://www.thinkyouknow.co.uk). We ask you to think carefully about who you share your details with and think before you post online.

### **Well Being Team**

We want all our children 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 wellbeing. 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. You can also speak to a member of our Transition Support Team, who are students in the current Year 7. They know all about what it's like to go through transition!

## **Key members of staff.**

There are lots of staff who 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:**

Director of behaviour and pastoral support.



### **Mr Davis:**

Is the Progress Leader for Year 7 and Associate Assistant Head.



### **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 - Mr Nimmo

Hello!

I hope you are all excited about being Crossley Heath students! I am certainly very excited about meeting you and being your form tutor.

My name is Mr Nimmo and I lead the Music Department in school. I have taught at Crossley Heath for  $2\frac{1}{2}$  years and I really love it! It is an excellent school and you will have so many exciting opportunities here. My job as your form tutor, is to ensure that you are happy, so if you have any problems at all then I can help. Very soon, we will meet in person but before this, I would like to introduce myself a little bit...

As I mentioned earlier, I am a Music teacher. I have been teaching for 17 years and my main instrument is the piano. In addition to my love of music, I am a huge sports fan. My favourite football team is Middlesbrough (which is where I was born). I also love spending time with my wife and three children, my cats (Shadow and Muffin) and my dogs (Nala and Oreo)!

I hope you enjoy the exciting things that I am sure you will be doing to mark the end of your time at Primary School. Have a lovely summer and I look forward to getting to know you in September.



A message from your form tutor

7B—Mrs Griffiths

Hello 7B!

The 'B' stands for "best " because, of course, we will be the best form in Year 7.

I am Mrs Griffiths; I will be your form tutor from September. Firstly, welcome to the school. I am sure you cannot wait to start, I have a son that is a similar age to you and I know first hand, as a parent, how transition can feel for you: exciting and also a little daunting.

I have been a science teacher for a very long time, I think it's 20 years now!! I have only worked at Crossley Heath for three years. I have really enjoyed been a part of the Crossley Heath family.

Here is a little more about myself so you know what to expect: I like running, cycling and generally being outdoors when the sun is shining. I have had to start enjoying gardening too, otherwise we would be living in a jungle. I really enjoy spending time with my children.

I cannot wait to meet you all.



## A message from your form tutor

### 7C - Mrs Henson

Hello 7C! Welcome to your new form! I am Mrs Henson and I will be your form tutor.

I am really looking forward to meeting you all and getting to know you on Transition Day and when the new school year starts in September. Some of you may be feeling a bit apprehensive and anxious but I really want to reassure you that you are going to have a wonderful time at Crossley Heath. You will make some lovely friends and there really isn't anything to worry about.

You will see me everyday during tutorial periods and I am here to make sure you are happy, you settle in well and enjoy your time at school. Therefore if you have any problems you can come and talk to me (I also enjoy general chats too though!).

A little bit about me; I teach Art and Design and have been at Crossley's for 12 years now and usually have a KS3 form. I love to travel, read, draw and take photos. I have a little girl who is 4 and starting school this September and a little boy who will be 1 in September too so most of my time is spent with them at the moment! You will usually find me with a cup of tea and a bit of chocolate! I look forward to meeting you all!



## A message from your form tutor

### 7D - Mr Todde-Wilson

Well 7D. My message to my lovely new form is: it's going to be great! You're at the start of an amazing journey and what happens next is going to be key to your progress in life. Here is where you're going to make new friends, discover new things, develop new interests and become an even more amazing person (whilst continuing to build on your past friendships, interests & activities)! I can't wait to meet you so I can say, "I was there - at the start!"

So, what about me? I'm mad for long-distance, trail & fell -running: I love running up and down hills & mountains in all conditions... and am delirious when scrambling over and above high mountains. I love walking with my wife, friends and family, camping, gardening, swimming, cycling.

I live with Mrs Todde-Wilson (who also teaches here) and 5 cats (who don't teach here). I teach English. But most of all - I'm your new form-tutor and for the next 2 years, I'll be one of your 'go-to' people. I'll be there to help you settle in & deal with any hiccups (though there aren't usually many of those) along the first part of your bigger journey. So welcome to you all. Have a GREAT summer - try and do something new and fun.... And I'll see you in September!



## A message from your form tutor

### 7E - Mr Barber

Hi everybody,

It's me ...Mr Barber and I'm going to be your form tutor throughout Years 7 and 8. You've probably got stacks of questions but let me reassure you, you're going to be fine. I've been a Year 7 and 8 form tutor for 10 years at Crossley Heath and before that I was 6th form tutor. I've been at Crossley Heath for a long time now and I genuinely love my job. One of the best parts of my job is when I get to meet new students and help them settle into our fabulous school.

I'll be teaching you Design and Technology which is a really creative and practical subject and Personal Development which is a really important lesson where you explore and learn about topics that help you to develop into well prepared young adults.

Outside of school I like to keep active and enjoy running for my local running club, cycling long distances with friends and general tinkering around making and fixing things.

I look forward to meeting you all.

Mr B



## A message from your form tutor

### 7F - Miss Gaukrodger

Hello 7F,  
Congratulations on securing your place at Crossley Heath. I am very excited about being the form tutor to the soon-to-be best form group in the whole of Year 7. I am very much looking forward to meeting you all on your Transition Day.

I understand that some of you will be nervous about starting at your new school. I am new too! I started in January 2022. Crossley's is fantastic, all the staff and pupils are warm, welcoming, and friendly. The students here are exemplars of what it is to be a brilliant member of the school. They are kind, respectful, and caring individuals, as I'm sure you are! You will have no problem making friends here.

I can't wait to get to know each one of you, but before that, here is a little bit about me. Luckily, Crossley Heath is my first school as a teacher. I teach Geography to students from Year 7 all the way to Year 11. Teaching a subject as amazing as Geography, naturally leads me to love travelling around the world, especially to the USA! Which is why it is even better when I get to teach you all about some of the amazing places there.

In my free time, I love being with my family and friends. I am a very active person, who loves going to the gym, running, walking, and even riding horses. Horses are my main interest; this is what I do every weekend! I have two horses called Flynn and Remy. They keep me very busy!

I hope you all have a lovely summer term—I'll see you on Transition Day!

**The Crossley Heath School**



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](mailto: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](http://www.crossleyheath.org.uk) and click on Transition to Year 7 from the school information drop down menu.

I hope 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.

Mr Davis

**Key dates to remember:**

**Monday 27th June—Parent/carer Information Evening**

**Monday 4th July—Transition Day**

**Friday 2nd September—Year 7 Induction Day**

