



Celebrating
70
years



Green Bay | The Four Bad | Olive Bush



Celebrating our people | Connecting our community

💛 'What I Wish I'd Known in Year 7' 💛

Advice from older students to our
new Year 7 year group



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The Kindness Collective Initiative: Celebrating our people. Connecting our Community
Our belief: Small acts of kindness create lasting connections and a stronger sense of belonging

It's okay to not know what you're doing, because everyone is in the same position as you



Be yourself it doesn't matter what some people think



Make sure you're trying to make new friends even if you're extremely socially uncomfortable, it will be worth it



Everyone gets lost so don't worry because anyone you ask will help you.



Be yourself and the right people will come to you eventually



The teachers want you to do well and are there to help you adjust



You won't get in trouble if you were genuinely lost, just ask a teacher or other student where that room is and they will help



The teachers are genuinely nice and can help you through almost anything



Think back to your first few weeks of Year 7. What is one thing you wish someone had told you?

Get a smaller bag
and be confident
with meeting new
people



It all goes so quick and
year 7 is the time to take
opportunities, try your
hardest, and make lots
of friends



Just enjoy year 7 it
will be one of the
most carefree
and fun years
you'll have



Don't worry about
friendships and
lessons and
timetables, just do
what you can and
be yourself because
that's what will help
you throughout the
rest of school



Be open
minded with
friendships and
people in your
class.



Ask lots of questions and
not take things too
seriously.

Just enjoy it.



I wish someone
told me how
friendly people
can be



Attend as many
clubs as possible



Think back to your first few weeks of Year 7. What is one thing you wish someone had told you?

Keep being yourself, you will find the right people soon. You will branch out in lessons or activities.



You have got this!



Be yourself



Just start hanging out on the Year 7 court, you'll find someone eventually



Anyone who makes you feel bad are not the right people for you and that's okay



You'll find people you fit in with and settling in takes time.



There are many clubs for a range of interests



You will find someone that makes you laugh or is friendly



What would you say to a Year 7 student who is worried that they might not fit in yet?

Don't worry, I felt like that but not everyone has to be the same



Going from a little school to a big one can seem scary and it can seem like there are so many more children to get lost in and so much harder to fit in but there are also so many more children who would love a friend like you who won't want you to fit in but just want to be friends with who you are.



Fitting in does not matter at all, being yourself is what matters because when you get older you're gonna wish you stood out cause fitting in is overrated anyways and standing out is cooler



Talk to new people, try a club and try to make friends with a similar hobby to you because that is a great way to make friends and it helped me a lot to find loads of friends with similar interests to me!



I would say don't worry you will find your people it may just take some time



Join a club, it's a great way to get to know people and you belong more than you think



Lots of people feel they don't fit in which is enough for you to fit in with each other



You have always fit in, you just might not have found the right people for you yet



What would you say to a Year 7 student who is worried that they might not fit in yet?

Go to the library



If a person is saying or doing something that is rude or cruel to you, unless they are a friend who is giving you genuinely well intended feedback on your behaviour, which may not be the nicest to hear, the only person's opinion on you which matters is your own.



Join clubs outside of school, you might find people more suited to you



It takes time to find the people and routine that work with you



You will find your people!



It's okay to feel this way, I felt like that too when I was in year 7 but you don't have to worry about these things, you can always find a place to fit in later!



Don't change for others, just find your people



Talk to more people



What would you say to a Year 7 student who is worried that they might not fit in yet?

Try hard
and be
yourself



Never give up



Punctuality is key



You have to make
mistakes in order
to learn and that
everyone is in the
same boat



That being with
friends make you
look forward to
school



Real friends will be
there for you



Not to let people
bring me down



Not everything is
going to be easy so
take on the
challenge



One thing I've learnt since starting secondary school is...

That sometimes you have to be independent



That in 5 years none of the small things that you worry about are gonna matter and no one will remember, so just speak your mind and express yourself because this is the time to make mistakes



You're not alone and trying a hobby to make friends is great because that way you do the things you enjoy



People come and go, know your true friends that will back you, the rest will come easily



The school may seem big but you get used to it and it becomes not that big



There is more homework than primary school so I try to plan my evenings around the due dates of homework.



You are going to have weird phases when you are young and those phases are a part of life to be enjoyed while they last.



You will make mistakes but it's a good thing because they help you learn



One thing I've learnt since starting secondary school is...

The amount of opportunities you get and that things that are big in the moment eventually feel so small



It may seem hard to think about the fact you have 4 years ahead of you, especially if school isn't your favourite place, but once the time comes closer to leaving you begin to notice that there are many things that you will miss.



Friendships change



True friends are the best thing



Times get tough and you think you can't cope with everything, but there is always someone to talk to whether it's your teacher or tutor or even your Head of House



There is always someone you can talk to



Cherish the good things while you can.



You're not alone so it makes school a whole lot more fun!



One thing I've learnt since starting secondary school is...

Making the class
a safe place to
talk



Asked to be
friends with me



Showing me where
a classroom is



My house
captains were
great in year 7



When I was worried I
wouldn't have
someone to go with
in a lesson someone
went with me and
now we're good
friends



Telling me to go to a
certain club where
I found friends who
I can talk with about
anything



Taking genuine
interest in my life,
hobbies and interests
and asking questions
during silly icebreaker
tasks that helped
relax the
conversation



People helped check I was
ok and the teachers were
particularly helpful during
an argument between me
and my friend where they
sat us down, gave us an
opportunity to talk,
apologise and make up.
Now we're closer than
before!



What is one small thing another student did that helped you feel welcome or included?

Complementing my hair style



I once was feeling worried about something and they asked if I was ok and if I needed someone to talk to



Another student helped me by helping me find somewhere



When I first went to street dance club I was the only year 7 there so I sat and ate my lunch alone but then a group of year 8s sat with me.



A nice girl came and we had a little talk and that made me open up a bit and made me feel a bit more welcome



Letting me play ball with them



My mate bought me cookies



Talk



What is one small thing another student did that helped you feel welcome or included?

Remember lots of people probably feel the same as you. Talk to teachers or students about what you're struggling with and they will help you



Remember that there is always tomorrow and a bad day doesn't equal a bad life



If you're worried about making friends look for the quieter kids and they are usually very friendly just haven't found a good friend yet



If you're worried about making friends, put yourself out there in clubs



Everything is awesome, everything cool, when your part of the team



If you're worried about making friends just remember everything happens for a reason and the right people who love and respect you will be there for you when they can be



Everyone is really understanding and supportive and if they don't know, say 'ok' and find another teacher.



If you are having a difficult day, remember there are lots of students and teachers you can talk to



If you're having a difficult day, remember... If you're worried about asking for help... If you're worried about making friends...

If you're worried about asking for help just remember everyone goes through Year 7 so they should know what to say



If you are worried about making friends, don't worry because you will find someone to talk to either in your tutor, learning group, clubs or at lunchtime.



If you're worried about making friends you should join clubs, you will find people interested in the same stuff as you.



That's what the teachers are there for and they're all pretty friendly



If you're having a difficult day, remember that persevering and staying engaged during lessons shows great resilience.



Speak up



If you're worried about asking for help remember there are so many teachers open to have a talk, you are never alone in this, we have all been in your place and we have all felt this way. If you need help please go find a trusted adult like your tutor for example or a teacher that you really like!



If you're having a difficult day, remember it's one bad day and good days will follow



If you're having a difficult day, remember... If you're worried about asking for help... If you're worried about making friends...

Year 7s are a big part of Gordano, and the sixth formers are always happy to help if you need to ask questions



There are people out there who are feeling the same way



No matter who you are, you belong



Without the bad days you wouldn't appreciate the good ones as much



Don't try and fit in with what other people are doing because making friends and feeling part of a community comes from who you actually are not who you think you should be



You'll settle down quicker than you think



You belong in this community



Enjoy the process of school



If you could tell our Year 7 students just ONE thing that would help them feel happy, confident and part of our community, what would you tell them?

Be proud of what
you do and don't
give up



Although
Gordano feels like
a big school,
there is definitely
always someone
to help you feel
like you belong.



Be creative +
make music/ art



You're not
alone.



The school may
look big but
I promise most
people in this
school have
bigger hearts



You're braver than you
think so get out there



You are enough!



Join clubs in your
interests so you
can connect with
like-minded
people



If you could tell our Year 7 students just ONE thing that would help them feel happy, confident and part of our community, what would you tell them?

Everyone was year 7 once!



It's great fun belonging to a house



You can always find someone to talk to in Gordano. A teacher, friend, tutor or even head of house



Secondary school is just a small sector of your life, it will be over so quickly, be yourself



Don't give a hoot about what other people think, after that the fear of embarrassment will go and you can be yourself



Talk



Never be afraid to ask someone in an older year for help or advice with something as many of us will understand and be willing to help you out



The sandwiches and cheese paninis are so nice!



If you could tell our Year 7 students just ONE thing that would help them feel happy, confident and part of our community, what would you tell them?



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GORDANO

Kindness Crew

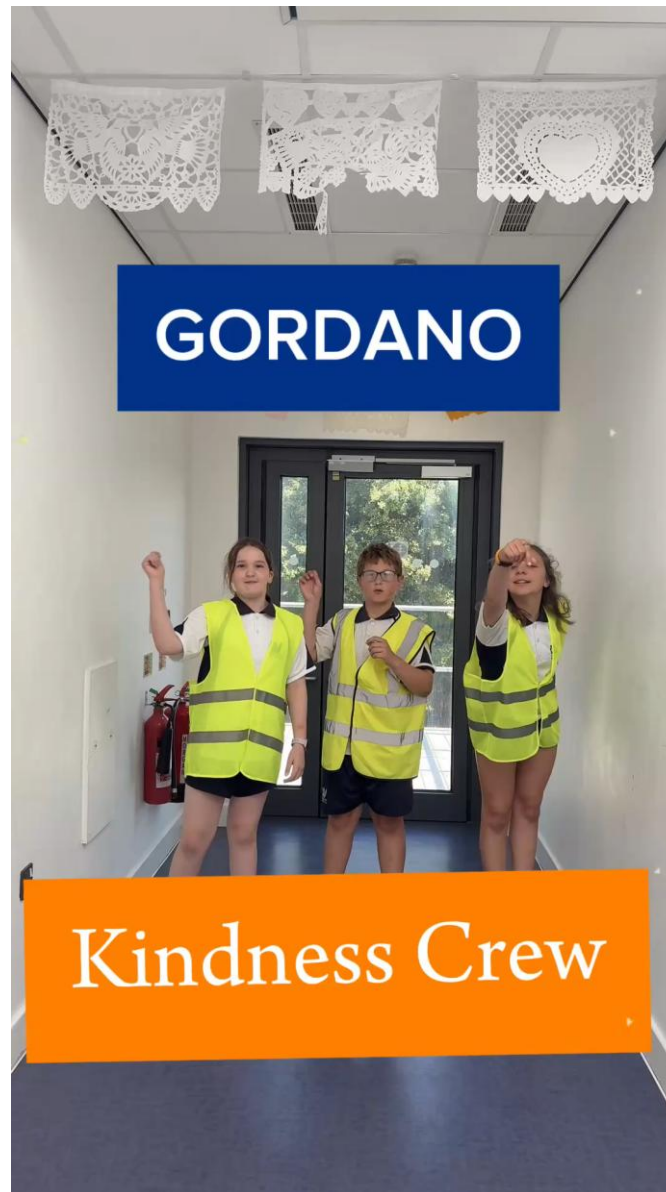


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