

Getting Ready for Year 7 at Grove Academy



How will you help me get ready for Year 7?

Some students will have attended Grove Academy primary phase and some will be coming here for the first time.

Wherever you have come from, we know that starting Year 7 is a big step for everyone. We will make sure that all new students feel welcome, confident and ready for the exciting journey into secondary school.

Taster lessons

As part of our transition programme, during Year 6 you will be invited to take part in special transition sessions, where you will join taster lessons in real secondary classrooms, taught by secondary school teachers.

This gives you a chance to explore the new curriculum and get used to the secondary school environment.

Summer School

Before September, you can also join our fun and friendly Summer School, where you will meet other new students, enjoy activities such as games, sports, art and team challenges... and start building friendships.

Making friends before term starts

Last year, students worked together to plant flowers in the school courtyard – a project that helped them feel part of the Grove community even before term began.



How should I get ready for my first day?

Year 7 is all about becoming more responsible and independent. A bit of preparation will really help you get off to a confident and happy start.

Uniform and equipment

Make sure you have everything you will need before your first day, and that it is all labelled with your name.

Getting to school

Think about how you will get to school. Practise your route if necessary. If you are using public transport, make sure you leave enough time in case of delays. Perhaps arrange to meet up with friends and come to school together.

Night before your first day

Pack your bag with all the equipment you will need. Make sure you get enough sleep.



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First day

Check your bag. Have some breakfast or allow time to have breakfast at school. Use a daily checklist from now on, to make sure you have everything you need before you leave for school. Remember to switch your mobile phone off and keep it out of sight when you are on the school site.

What does a school day look like in Year 7?

This is what a school day looks like:

8:00am	Breakfast club starts promptly at 8:00am
8:30am	Tutor time / Assembly
9:00am	Lesson 1
10:00am	Lesson 2
11:00am	Break / Lunch
11:30am	Lesson 3
12:30pm	Break / Lunch
1:00pm	Lesson 4
2:00pm	Lesson 5
3:00pm (2:30pm on Friday)	Year 7 finish

Rooms and teachers

You will go to different rooms for each subject and have different teachers. Some of your subjects will be new, such as design technology, languages, photography and computer science. We will give you a timetable so that you will know where you need to be and what subjects you will be having every day.

Facilities

We have fantastic facilities, including fully equipped classrooms and science classrooms, DT facilities, food technology rooms, drama studio, sports hall, gym, main school hall (with stage and lighting), MUGA and library.



Morning routine

Each morning, you'll meet with your Form Tutor and form group for registration. Your Form Tutor is there to help you settle in and answer any questions you have.

Food

The Bistro opens at 7:45am to all secondary students. This is an opportunity to have breakfast with friends. Having breakfast at school is a good way to make sure you won't be late.

You can also use The Bistro at break and lunchtime. The Bistro serves a selection of hot and cold food, which you can purchase by presenting your ID card. Your ID card is linked to your ParentPay account, which your parents will top up for you regularly.

End of school day

All secondary year groups are dismissed at different times so that it is less busy when leaving the school. **On Friday, the timetable is different and school finishes earlier – at 2:30pm for Year 7.**



What is expected of me at Grove Academy?

At Grove Academy, we want everyone to feel happy, safe and ready to learn. We are a school where you can be yourself, do your best and aim high!

Our School Values

We follow three important rules every day:

Be ready – Come to school prepared and ready to learn.

Be respectful – Be kind and polite to everyone.

Be safe – Make good choices to keep yourself and others safe.

These help us make school a great place for everyone!



In Our Classrooms – The Grove 5 (G5)

In every lesson, we aim to be:

1. **Relentless Readers** – We love reading and do it every day.
2. **Knowledge Retrievers** – We remember what we've learned.
3. **Critical Connectors** – We make smart links in our learning.
4. **Quality Talkers** – We talk confidently to a range of audiences and listen to others.
5. **Active Learners** – We drive our own learning and participate fully.

Rewards

We give out points, and certificates, and celebrate when you have done well.

You will receive points relating to the G5 and for positive behaviour and good attendance every day.

High-scoring students are awarded certificates, and their names and scores are published in our termly newsletter.

Students with good attendance are treated to exclusive rewards and trips.



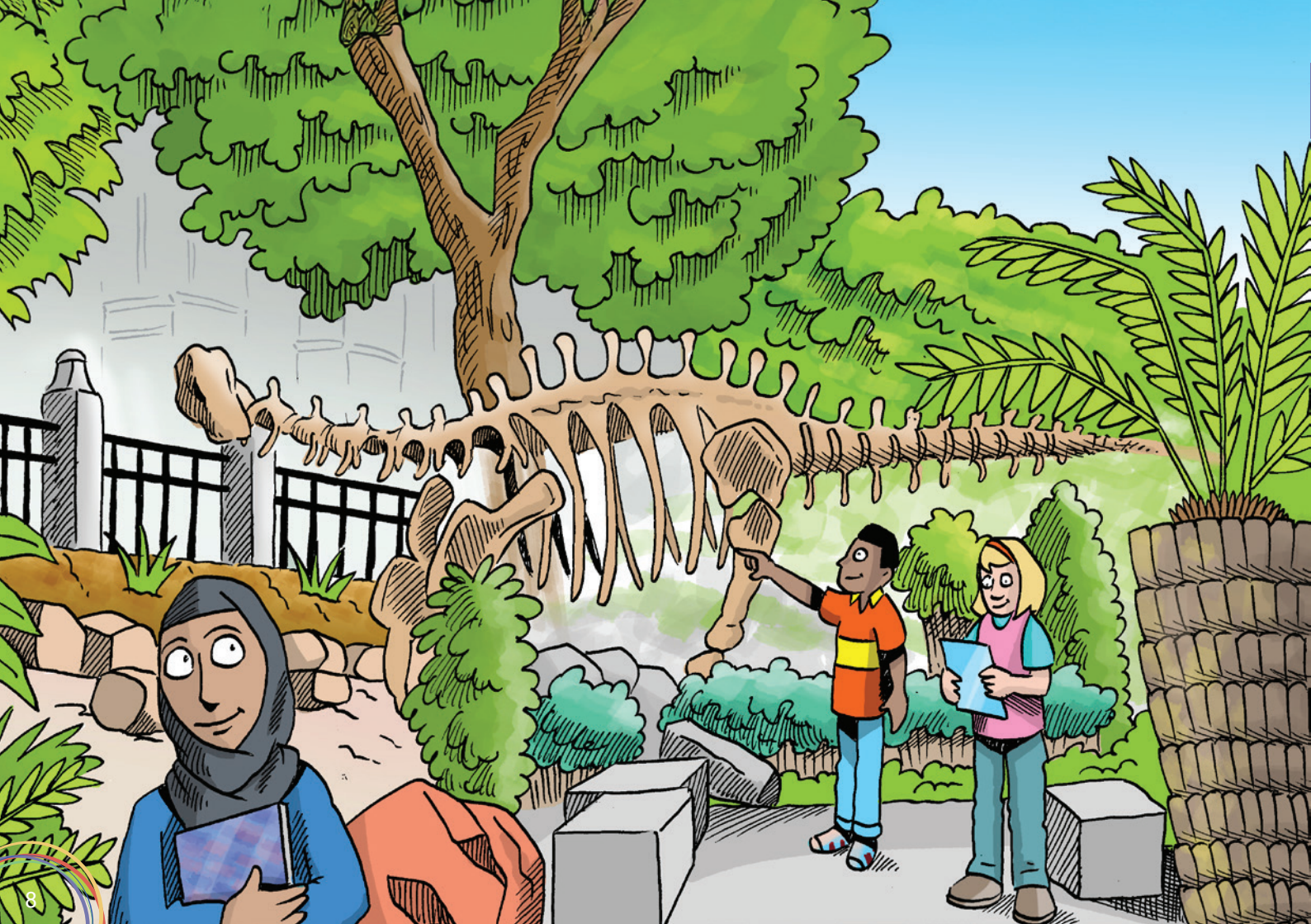
Who can I speak to if I need help at school?

At Grove Academy, because we want every child to feel happy, safe and ready to learn, we make sure that there will always be someone to help if you are struggling.

Your Form Tutor will probably be the best person to speak to because you will see them every morning and get to know them really well. They will check how you are feeling, help you get ready for the day and always be there if you need help.

You can also speak to your Head of Year, Learning Mentors and our Safeguarding Team. We also have First Aiders if you have a medical need.

Always remember – we are here to help you!



What extra curricular activities can I do at Grove Academy?

We have a brilliant range of activities available for you.

Trips

You can take part in subject-specific field trips such as Geography investigations at Northala Fields, Biology studies in Amersham and Maths enrichment at Bletchley Park. There will be visits to the Science Museum, Natural History Museum, British Museum and lots more.

Sports enrichment and clubs

We also have a large sports enrichment offer. We have a fabulous new Table Tennis Centre and Fitness Studio.

Inter-school competitions

You may also participate in inter-school competitions and events within our trust, including chess tournaments and multicultural celebrations.

We have a wide variety of clubs that students can take part in, including:

MATHS **FITNESS**
DRAWING **COMPUTING**
BADMINTON **CHESS** **SCIENCE**
D.T. **ART AND ORIGAMI**
BOYS' AND GIRLS' FOOTBALL
NETBALL **DANCE** **MUSIC**
GROVE'S GOT TALENT
DRAMA **READING** **TABLE TENNIS**

There is something for everyone and the chance to find a new hobby or lifelong interest and make new friends!

FAQs

What happens if I am late to a lesson or get lost?

In Year 7, you will move around the building to attend lessons in different classrooms. If you get lost or are late, you can ask any member of staff or older student to help you find your way. Make sure you **keep your timetable in your pocket** as this will have all your lesson and classroom details on it. It is your responsibility to make sure you get to all your lessons on time. We will also give you a tour of the school on your transition day. Try not to worry about this too much. Your teachers understand that new students will need a bit of time to get used to the new building and timetable. **You will get to know where everything is very quickly.**



How is homework set and how should I organise it?

You will have your own ClassCharts account where you can log in with your unique student code to access homework and submit completed work. You will be able to view your homework by due date, view announcements from teachers and track your behaviour points and attendance. Your parents/carers will also have access to your ClassCharts so that they can support you and track your progress, behaviour and attendance.

You will receive regular homework, so make sure you plan out your week so you have time to complete it.

Remember to allow time for other commitments, such as hobbies and clubs.

Will my teachers be keeping in touch with my parents/carers?

One of the biggest changes from Year 6 to Year 7 is that most students will make their own way to school and back home again, sometimes sharing the journey with a friend. In Year 7, you will have many opportunities to demonstrate your independence skills. You will take responsibility for yourself. Even though your parents/carers may not come to school to collect you every day, teachers will still be keeping in touch with them to make sure you're doing well and to discuss any questions they have about you.



What can I look forward to in Year 7?

Making friends

Don't worry if you don't know anyone at first. Everyone is new to secondary school and looking to make friends too. You will meet people in lessons, at lunch and in clubs.

New subjects and teachers

You will have different teachers for each subject. They are experts and make learning fun and interesting. You will get to explore exciting subjects like science, art, drama, music and new languages.

Trying new things

There are lots of chances to try something new, like sports, after-school clubs, music groups and school trips. These activities will help you learn more about what you enjoy.

Showing your talents

Whether you are creative, sporty or good at problem-solving, or like helping others, you will find lots of ways to show your skills and shine.

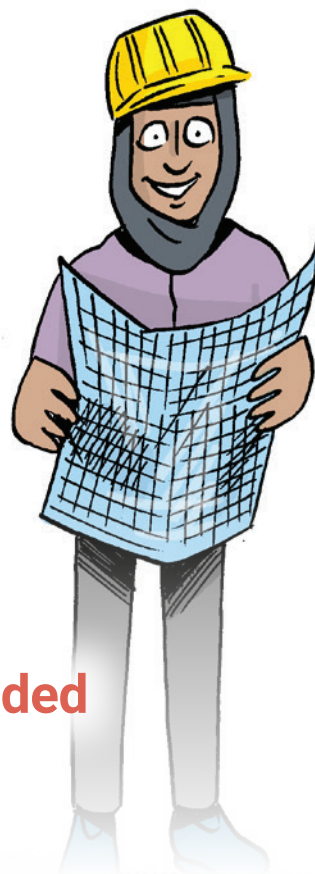
Taking part in school events

You can join in fun school events like concerts, sports day, charity fundraisers and competitions. It's a great way to get involved and make lasting memories.

More freedom and responsibility

You will have more independence, such as moving between lessons on your own and organising your work. You might even be chosen for special roles like Student Ambassador or helping with school activities.





Grove Academy

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