

JAY'S STORY; CARTOON STRIP

Read Jay's report about his experience of moving to secondary school last year. Now pick out SIX main points that he mentioned that you felt were helpful to know about moving schools:

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Think about Jay's report and the list you have made about the different things that Jay mentioned in it. Using these six points, draw a cartoon strip about Jay's experience of moving to secondary school. You may like to add your own characters such as Jay's friend, a teacher he met, and/or a school prefect who was particularly helpful.

JAY'S STORY

The report below is from a boy called Jay who, like all his friends, moved to secondary school in September. Although he was looking forward to starting the new school, he was also worried about the change and what it would be like.

Here's what he has to say:



Everyone gets scared when they are moving to secondary school. But it's not as bad as it sounds. When I was just about to move up I was nervous. I was worried about the amount of work, how hard the work would be, the bigger people in school who may intimidate me, and if the teachers were going to be strict. The things that worried me the most were making new friends and losing old ones and how I'd be able to fit in with everyone. But I haven't lost any friends and I've made loads of new ones really quickly.

And there are a lot of things that helped me. There were a couple of induction days - they really helped because you got to meet the teachers, you got to meet all the people in your class, and you got a taste of life in secondary school. Getting to pick a group of four friends that I wanted to be in my class helped too, but I only picked one.

In the first week we got taken around the school by the prefects. That helped a lot too. They also gave us advice about our uniform, where we could and couldn't go, and the school's policy on using mobiles in school, especially social media. There was a lot to take in and, I don't care admitting, I'm still not actually sure about using snapchat and Instagram...my mum doesn't like it. But I'm on facebook and I guess I'll just find my way with everything else if I really need too...Having the latest gadgets and being on all these different groups and things definitely isn't the big deal I thought it would be at Secondary school.

Now I am enjoying my new school a lot; I use the school library loads and I am starting to find my way around. The only thing that I am still getting used to is having lots of different teachers.

My advice to people moving up would be: Don't believe all the rumours you hear, don't think that just because you are in a different class from a friend that you will not see them again, and try to make some new friends; don't just stick with the friends you've got. It's not as scary as you think and, actually, being the youngest in school again is pretty cool...

