

Leith Academy
20 Academy Park
EH6 8JG
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Dear P7,

Going into high school is exciting, but it can also be quite frightening. High school seems to be a big place, full of people, and starting it you might have some questions. I'm here, hopefully, to answer some of the questions you might have about transitioning and high school itself.

The first few days of high school were, for me, the most nerve-racking. For those days you and your point class have a Prefect who shows around. At first you think that you are going to get lost a lot, but most people don't. The second week you don't have a Prefect but if you make friends then you can go to class together.

Everyone has a different experience during their first year of high school. My experience has been very positive. I made friends with a lot of people, so I always had someone to help me and I helped them back. All my teachers were nice to me and my class got on well together. You do get lots of homework and you must stay behind if you don't do it.

This year I have really enjoyed doing classes that I wasn't able to do in primary like science, home economics and tech. I also enjoyed meeting new people and having different teachers. I was surprised by the number of clubs there were and the number of trips you can go on. The school offers lots of help as well, and even has clubs where you can do homework too.

There were a few things I found challenging about S1. I found the one-way system confusing at first, but I've got the hang of it now. I also found remembering my timetable hard but my friends and I have the same timetable so we can remind each other if we forget.

Finally, here are some tips that you might find useful:

- Don't be scared to ask for help with directions. Look out for the Prefects wearing blazers
- Try and meet as many new people as you can
- Take a picture of your class times and your timetable so you don't forget them
- Have your money ready in your hand at lunch time because the queues make it hard to get things from your bag
- Stay out of trouble
- Most of all don't be afraid to be yourself, that might be someone different from primary school.

Yours sincerely (and good luck 😊)
Alice McGuire