

Hi Y6,

My name is Ben McFerran. As you're coming to the end of your time at primary school and will soon be joining Lymm High School, and as I'm finishing my first year of high school, I have been asked by your soon-to-be head of year to write a letter to you to describe the start of my life at high school.

Although the high school was already familiar to me - from events I have been to and having two older brothers at the school - I was still a bit nervous. I had spent most the last 7 years at Cherry Tree, a place that I really liked – particularly since I had all my friends with me. So understandably, joining this huge place, where I knew hardly anybody, I had some worries.

My first worry was that "would I see any of my friends again?" Thankfully, the school had already asked who I would want to be with and before school even started, I knew which form I was in and it turns out I am with all my friends! I was very happy, but if you are placed in a form with students from other schools, don't worry, you will soon bond with others in your form (and in other forms too!).

I quickly felt that I shouldn't have been as worried as I had been, Lymm High was starting to feel like my school and I began to feel really comfortable here. Near the start of the school year I had joined the year 7 rugby team and I already knew most of them, but there were some new arrivals. Any sports team is a great way to mould into the school, but if you don't particularly like sports, there are many other extracurricular clubs to join. Unfortunately, Rugby 7's was cancelled due to Covid-19 so we couldn't play.

Some of you might be worried about getting lost and being late, but don't worry, your form tutor will help you and for the first few weeks you will be shown around. Also, once the bell has gone, you still have around 5 minutes to get to your lesson. To make things easier, there are signs to direct you to the different departments. Finally, student services can help direct you – they are a really big help.

A big concern is that the older years will bully you because some of them are grown adults and you're only a year 7. If you feel that you're being bullied, the school has many ways to talk about it. Student services are always available to talk to. If you don't want the school to know who you are when seeking help, they have recently added a new feature called "Tell Us" where there is a custom QR code which allows you to anonymously report something. You can also speak to your form tutor or head of year and discuss what's happening.

Despite all these worries you might have, Lymm High School is a great school and a very welcoming place. This school gives you a lot of freedom at break and lunch, we have great extracurricular activities, and the staff are very supportive. You're bound to have a lot of fun.

I'm sure when you join high school you'll fit right in. Good luck.

Ben McFerran 7DL

Headteacher: Mr Gwyn Williams

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