



Great Marlow School

Excellence • Compassion • Integrity

Welcome Year 6

Dear future members of our GMS community,

Our Year 7 students have written to you with some advice for starting at Great Marlow School.

We hope this gives you a good insight into the adventures that await you at GMS in September!

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When I was in Year 6 moving up to Year 7 I felt very excited, but also a bit nervous. I imagine that you are feeling the same way. My favourite part of GMS is that there are lots of people to support you and help you on your way. I was also supported by my friends from my previous school. I was really surprised by the way that people get along and help others at the school.

Charlotte – Former Lane End School student.

When I was in year 6 and thinking about moving into year 7, I felt a quite nervous because I would be in a different community and would be at the bottom of the school. In September when I joined Great Marlow School, I was supported by my teachers, so I felt comfortable and I was able to do my best.

My favourite aspect of GMS is that there are extra curriculum activities that will fit you and you will never be left out.

Here are some helpful tips for you to get you ready to join the community that I think I would have found helpful when I was in your position. They are:

- Be confident
- Don't let anything stop you
- Be yourself

Aiden – Former Spinfield School student.



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I am a Year 7 student at GMS. I went to Holy Trinity for my Primary School. I felt very uneasy about joining a new school. The support system at Great Marlow is amazing. You have the lovely ladies from LGS and your teachers and also other students if you are ever in doubt. The food at GMS is the best. On my first day at school I had a cheese Panini and a cherry soda. I have made so many new friends at GMS and I'm sure that you will find friends too that will respect you.

I hope to see you soon,

Jess – Former Holy Trinity School student

When I joined Great Marlow School, I was supported by my teachers and the staff from the special educational needs department (SEN department). What I really like about GMS is probably that there are a lot of things you can try from clubs to lessons. I would advise you to try your hardest, even in the lessons you don't like (it might end up being fun).

Sophie – Former Holy Trinity school (Herries and Saint Peters) student.



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I was so excited to join Great Marlow but the first day hit me like a whirlwind, I felt nervous and had lots of emotions. It really helped to have my form tutor and my friends there to make me feel comfortable. My advice would be to try and learn from school, prepare yourself and manage your time. As soon as you step inside Great Marlow you feel like part of a big family and just know that they would do anything for you. There's no reason to be scared, the teachers are fantastic and the students are amazing. Just remember they are all human.

Olivia B – Former Holly Trinity School student

In September when I joined Great Marlow School, I was supported by my new form teacher, the year group head and Mrs Gifford and the other teachers, my friends and my mum. My favourite part of GMS is the massive sports centre and variety of clubs you can do. And I was really surprised by how easy it was to get settled and feel at home at the school. Here are some helpful tips for you to get ready to join the community that I think I would have found helpful when I was in your position:

1. You will get lost at the start but don't worry everybody does and you will soon find your way around
2. The lessons are a lot of fun and easy to understand but you have to get used to the different timetable every day and all the new different lessons
3. There is not much homework straight away mostly covering and decorating your new books but there is more by Christmas
4. You have a shorter lunch break and most people do not play games they talk to their friends during break and lunch and there are lots of places around the school you can go
5. There are loads of brilliant clubs so find out which ones you like and sign up I am in football, hockey and cookery

Faris – Former Holy Trinity School student



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When I started at Great Marlow a few of my friends came with me and the others went to Borlase. If you have friends going to a different school then please don't worry, you can still meet up with them. I still play on my PS4 with my Borlase friends.

When I started at Great Marlow School I felt very nervous and thought that I would never be able to find my way around the school (even though I had loads of tours). I imagine that you will be feeling the same as me right now. But you know what? You get through it and you make so many new friends along the way. I have been supported by my brilliant form tutor and teachers, every one of them are so reassuring and nice! Here are some helpful tips for you to get ready to join the community: Be kind, be helpful, work hard and be positive!

Will – Former Holy Trinity School student

Before I came to Great Marlow I was scared that I wouldn't be in the same class as any of my primary school friends. When September came me and my friend walked in together, which made me feel less nervous. The teachers and prefects were very supportive and helpful. My favourite thing about GMS is the amount of opportunities you get to do different sports. I only wish I knew just how many different classes we would have, as we do have quite a few.

Ella - Former Frieth School student



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When I started at Great Marlow I had mixed emotions. I was worried about the new system and how I would fit in, and I was scared about losing my friends, as I imagine you may be. I was, however, also somewhat excited to be somewhere new and to get a fresh start. It was nice being supported by my form tutor, LGS and my head of year, Miss Bawden. Each of these support systems enabled me to settle into GMS quite well. Upon joining the school I was rather surprised by how many people were in my year, as there was a lot more than in my previous school, but we were reasonably spread out and the classes were only slightly larger than before, or in some cases smaller even. I strongly advise you have your planner on hand at all times, as it is used in every lesson and has your time table in it, I hope you have an amazing time at Great Marlow.

Tayla – Former Foxes Piece School student

When I was in year six and thinking about moving in to Year 7 I felt nervous and curious and I'm sure you must be feeling at least some of those feelings too. I needn't have worried as I got lots of support from my form tutor, teachers and also the older students. My favourite subject at GMS is Art as you get to do lots of fun projects. I was also very surprised at the amount of clubs that they have here at GMS. Here are some helpful tips for you for when you join GMS:

- When you don't know where your class is then ask older students or reception.
- Make sure that you carry the map of the school so that you know where everything is.
- Get involved in lots of clubs as they are lots of fun and you get to compete (and miss school!).
- Finally if anything upsets you then please tell your form tutor or LGS (Learning Guidance and Support).

Olivia – Former Burford School student



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Before joining GMS, I attended a beautiful, private, all-girls school in South Africa. When I was in South Africa and thinking about moving to a new country and school, I felt very anxious and scared. I had never been to a school in England let alone a school with a mix of boys and girls. My first day at GMS was a blur and I felt overwhelmed by all the people. By the end of that week I had finally found my way around the school and knew where my classes were without getting lost. I felt like I was part of a big happy family by the end of that first week. My favourite parts of GMS are the wonderful teachers, the Redgrave Sports Centre and the delicious canteen food (the chocolate brownies are to die for!). I was really surprised by the amount of fun you can have if you try and join all the activities at GMS.

Here are some helpful tips for you to get ready to join the community that I think I would have found helpful when I was in your position:

- Find a friend who can help you get to all of your classes.
- If you have any troubles don't be shy, go to LGS, they are so helpful.
- Don't be afraid to ask the older students for help as they are very friendly.

Georgia – Student from a school in South Africa.



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Aiden – Spinfield School

“The support system at Great Marlow is amazing”

Jess – Holy Trinity School

“If you have friends going to a different School then please don’t worry, you can still meet up with them. I still play my PS4 with my Borlase friends”

Will – Holy Trinity School

“I was really surprised by the way that people get along and help others at the school“

Charlotte – Lane End School

“When I joined Great Marlow I was supported by my teachers and the staff from the Special Educational Needs department”

Sophie – Holy Trinity School

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“My favourite parts of GMS are the wonderful teachers, the Redgrave Sports Centre and the delicious canteen food (the chocolate brownies are to die for!). Remember, if you ever have any troubles, don’t be shy, go to LGS, they are so helpful”

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