

2025/2026 Year 7 Testimonials

Bridget

Hi, my name is Bridget. I came from Trinity and St Michaels CofE Primary School. Going from being a big fish in a little pond to the little fish in the sea, trust me, it's not as scary as you think! You're not alone in this, every other Year 7 is going through the same thing. During your first few weeks, you'll have plenty of activities to help you settle in and all the teachers are here to support you. Some top tips are:

- Remember a water bottle.
- Pack your bag the night before to be prepared.
- Even if you think you don't need to, do homework early!
- Throw yourself at every extra-curricular club, you might find something new that you love.
- Everyone feels nervous, don't be afraid to talk to new people.

I am part of the Student Voice team, led by Mr. Tye (a super cool science teacher!). Student Voice is a group that makes sure that students' opinions are listened to by the staff, for example on canteen food, uniform and new rules. Anyone from Student Voice would be happy to help any of you at any time.

I hope your transition to Bishops is as smooth as mine was. Remember the top tips and keep being you. Welcome to the Bishop Rawstorne Community.

Freddie

Hi, my name is Freddie. I used to go to Ecclestone St Mary's before I came to Bishops. I originally thought Year 7 was going to be a massive challenge, but the truth is, it isn't!

You get a few weeks to settle in before lessons properly start and you get to try new subjects. I had never done Food Tech before and really enjoyed it.

On the subject of food, school dinners are amazing! Chicken chow mein every Thursday is delicious!

The sports facilities are also really good and I've joined several clubs that are really fun.

Some people worry about finding their way around to different lessons, but everyone is happy to show you the way and give you directions.

Here are some of my top tips to help your first few weeks:

- Bring all your equipment every day
- Try to talk to new people and make new friends
- Get involved in different after school clubs
- Bring a map...I'm only joking, you get used to the layout very quickly

Good luck and enjoy Year 7!

Eleanor

Hi, my name is Eleanor, and I came from Rufford C of E Primary School. At first, I was overwhelmed with the thought of high school. I worried I would get lost or not make friends, but I overcame these concerns within the first couple of weeks! There are so many activities set up to help new Year 7 students so that making new friends was easy, and you soon get used to where everything is surprisingly quickly. There are so many new subjects to enjoy too, like food tech, graphics and engineering.

Some tips I found useful include:

- Try to talk to as many people as possible and make friends.
- Bring spare equipment- pens run out faster than you expect.
- Keep an eye on homework and try to do days before it's due in.
- Don't worry about asking people for help.
- Take part in extra curricular activities.

Evan

Hi, my name is Evan and I came from Richard Durning's Primary School. Before starting in Year 7, I thought it would be a tough year because of the big transition. But once you settle in, school felt like a good place to be in. Two of my worries before Year 7 was the amount of homework you would get and the teachers being strict. But in reality, the teachers really help you settle in and welcome you. For homework, one tip is to do a piece every night. Also, I would recommend making new friends and friendship groups to hang out with at lunchtime. Speaking of lunchtime, the canteen is amazing and has got a lot of choice!

Here are some tips for high school:

- Bring some extra pens in case one runs out.
- Pack your bag the night before.
- Talk to people and make new friends.
- Try school clubs that interest you.

Good luck in Year 7!

Eleanor

Hi my name is Eleanor and I'm going to share my Year 7 experience and give you some top tips for starting! Before joining, I was worried about making new friends and fitting in. I only had a couple of friends from my primary school joining me at the start of the year. On the first day, I made lots of new friends and met my teachers; they were all very welcoming and friendly. My favourite subject is art as I love drawing and painting things. Finally, I would like to share my top tips with you:

- Pack your bag the night before
- make sure you have all the right equipment

- don't be shy to ask questions
- talk to people and make friends
- be respectful
- keep up with all your homework

I hope you enjoy Year 7 just as much as I have! Remember, there are so many people also in your shoes, who are nervous, so don't worry and just enjoy it....it goes by really fast!

Isaac

Hi my name is Isaac. It is understandable that you may be nervous about the transition from primary school to high school and that is completely normal. However, there is no need to worry as the teachers and students are extremely welcoming and you will adapt much quicker than you expect. Personally, my advice to you would be that you should be respectful to everybody, don't be afraid to ask for help, be confident to talk to people, don't panic and remember everyone in Year 7 is in the same position as you! As well as this, participate in as many extra-curricular activities as possible because it is a great way to make new friends. There are many positives of Bishops such as:

- Not being in the same classroom every day.
- More opportunities for friends.
- More teachers.
- More fun!

Finally, my top tips would be packing your equipment the night before (and check you have everything), bring multiple pens (regular and whiteboard) and enjoy it as time absolutely flies by! I hope this has helped you and that you have a fabulous time at Bishop Rawstorne!

Olivia

Hi, my name is Olivia. I have been a student at Bishop Rawstorne for around one year. Today, I am going to give you advice to make sure this year is unforgettable. Personally, my favourite subject is art as I love to draw paint and colour, but all subjects are enjoyable! When I first became a student at Bishops, I was worried about finding my way around school (as it was a big change from my small primary) but all the staff and students are wonderful and help you find your way around. Here's some advice that will help you in your first year .

- Join as many after school clubs as you can
- Talk to new people and make new friends
- Don't be shy - get out of your comfort zone
- Always ask questions and have fun
- Bring spare pens and pencils.

Lastly, enjoy! You only get to experience Year 7 once so make the most of it and have fun! Good luck. I can't wait to see you all next year.

George

Hi, my name is George. Before I began high school I was quite worried about not making friends and thought I would have no one to hang out with. But after a couple of weeks of being at the school, I settled in and was perfectly comfortable. I have many friends and I am also part of the Year 7 football team. I recommend trying your best to get to each lesson on time and try to be organised. It helps to get everything ready the night before school, like packing your bag and getting your uniform ready. Try your best to talk to as many people as you can and make sure to have lots of fun! Personally, my favourite lesson is P.E. where I can learn lots of skills for not only my favourite sport, football, but others too. There are also science labs where you can make potions! I hope you have a great time at Bishops and settle in well.

Jesmae

Hi, my name is Jesmae. I came from Mawdesley St Peters C of E Primary school.

High school may look big and be challenging at first, but the students, teachers and food make your time here much better! When I first got here I had no older siblings there because my sister had just left so I had no one to ask for help, but when my first week arrived I felt like I was welcomed into a new family. Everyone was so kind and welcoming, they helped me around when I got lost, they supported me, I made lots of new friends and still saw my old ones. At first the teachers won't mind if you're late to classes, but I would try to be on time because it's always good to be ready to learn on time. I have prepared some top tips so you can feel more relaxed and chilled about your big transition!

- It's okay to make some mistakes; no one is perfect!
- Make lots of new friends (talk to new people).
- Pack extra equipment (multiple pens!).
- Get involved with extra-curricular activities.
- Ask anyone for help, like students or teachers.

And lastly, *enjoy* Year 7, make the most out of it! Good luck.... You've got this!

Alex

Hi, my name is Alex and I went to Ecclestone St Mary's C of E Primary School. When I first went to Bishops, I was honestly pretty nervous about the transition, but after the first week or so, I was perfectly happy.

- My first tip is not to be afraid. Be open to others and you will make lots of new friends easily.
- Secondly, don't think you're alone. You will be one of loads of children joining Bishops this year and all of the teachers are here to help. In addition, you'll find that the other students will be willing to lend a hand to you too.
- Next, don't be scared to ask questions. If you are unsure about anything, then just ask and somebody will help you out.

- Although the school may seem big to start with, you'll be able to find your way around in weeks.
- Also, join in with extra-curricular activities to make your time at Bishops its fullest.
- Finally, no matter what you are doing, always find the fun in all things and you will always have a reason to smile!

I hope you have a smooth transition and I look forward to welcoming you into Bishop Rawstorne.

Rachel

Hi, my name is Rachel. I came from Ecclestone primary school and I was quite scared to come to Bishops. Even though most of my primary school friends came here and I knew people from activities outside of school, I still felt nervous. But, after all that worrying, I shortly learned that everyone else was feeling just the same. I began to enjoy moving from one classroom to another, meeting new friends and going to after school clubs (non-sport or sport).

Some advice:

- Pack your bags the night before
- Have all your equipment and PE kit
- Try lots of clubs
- Make a good impression on your teachers
- Don't be afraid to ask questions
- Embrace everything Bishops has to offer
- Don't be shy to talk to others
- Keep a routine
- Don't leave your homework to the last minute
- Most importantly, have fun!

Enjoy Year 7 (it goes by fast) and make lots of memories!