

26th August 2020

Dear Year 7

Welcome to Ninestiles: Reach for the Stars!

I am very excited that we will be welcoming you to Ninestiles very soon! I know that this has been a very difficult and confusing year for you and your families and that you may be feeling anxious about starting with us. Hopefully you have had a chance to look around our transition website where you will have been able to 'virtually' meet your tutors and find out a bit more about the school.

I wanted to write to you again before you join us to reassure you that there is no need for you to be worried and to tell you a little more about the special programme of activities we will be putting on for you when you arrive with us. Our aim is to help you get to know your tutors and teachers as well as make new friends as quickly as possible. Hopefully I will answer some of the questions you may still have about starting at Ninestiles below.

When is my first day at Ninestiles?

Your first day at Ninestiles will be on Thursday 3rd September. We would like you to arrive to the front of school, via Hartfield Crescent at 8.40am. With this letter you will have received a blue card with important information on it about your first day. Please make sure you bring this with you.

What do I need to bring with me?

Please come to school in full school uniform. You will have received a detailed guide to both uniform and an equipment list in your Welcome Pack. Please remember to bring a reading book with you.

How will I know where to go?

Your tutor will meet you at the front of school on your first day. You will know where to go as your tutor group is written on your blue card (E.g. 7.1). All tutor group numbers will be clearly marked on signs along the front of the school for you to see. Your tutor will be waiting under that sign and you will be asked to line up with your tutor group before entering the school. Your tutor will then take you and your tutor room and your introduction to life at Ninestiles will begin!

What kinds of things will I be doing in my first two days at Ninestiles?

On Thursday 3rd and Friday 4th September you will be the only year group in school. You will spend most of the day with your tutor and tutor group so that you can get to know them and quickly begin to feel at ease.

- Your tutors will explain what life at Ninestiles is like, what you can expect and what we will expect from you.
- They will guide you through everything that you need to know about the school and answer any questions that you may have.
- You will meet our Principal, Mr Hughes, and other members of staff at the school.

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- Miss Simpson, your Director of Year, will host a special assembly with you to explain why this year is so important.
- You will go on a tour of the school so that you can find your way around.
- You will take a short Accelerated Reader test so that we can support you with your reading.
- You will be set up on our payless system so you can buy food in our restaurant at break and lunchtime (on your first two days you will be provided with food in the restaurant for free until your account is set up so don't worry about this).
- You will have a practice fire drill on Friday morning.

What will I be doing in my second week at Ninestiles?

You will see your tutor in tutor time at the start of every day so you will always begin the day with a face you recognise. You will then spend the rest of the day in your lessons. As you will find out on Thursday you have 4 lessons each day and will be experiencing an exciting range of subjects – some for the first time! On Thursday 10th September you will have your school photograph taken.

I do hope that some of your questions will have been answered and that you feel a little less anxious about your first day.

Everyone at Ninestiles cannot wait to meet you on Thursday.

Yours sincerely

N. Lappage

Ms Lappage
Assistant Principal KS3