



Year 7 October 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

Congratulations! You and your child have navigated your way through the first half term in secondary school! We were so very proud of the students' positivity and resilience throughout this transition period. They have taken part in so many things and have already made a positive impact within the school. It was wonderful to see so many of them take part in our Year 7 Singing competition, and so many of you here cheering them on.

In assembly this week, I asked how many of them had: got lost; found new friends; kept in touch with old friends; started a new club - the list goes on, and they were so very enthusiastic about their first half-term at BHS. This week, I spoke to them about our Bushcraft educational visit which takes place in the Summer term; I think we will all be surprised at how quickly the year will fly by and before too long, we will be looking at kit lists and packing! Please remember to pay your deposit by 24th November 2025.

As a year group, Year 7 have been awarded 18,965 achievement points, showing that they have really engaged with our GLR reward framework. We have only been awarded 474 behaviour points and most of these points were for organisation, so please do continue to help them with packing their bags and checking their timetable in a bid to be better equipped.

Parental Feedback Opportunity – Primary-to-Secondary Transition

As educators, we always strive to provide the best possible learning experience for our students, and your input is invaluable in helping us to evaluate our efforts and improve our approach for future students. We understand that transitioning from primary to secondary school can be an exciting but sometimes challenging time for students, as they are faced with new academic and social expectations, as well as a new environment.

We would be grateful if you could take a few moments to share your thoughts on transition 2025 whilst it is fresh in your minds, as well as any suggestions you might have for improving our approach in the future. Your feedback will be used for the purpose of improving our transition programme.

Hopefully, it has been noted how much time, effort and energy staff put in to make transition effective; we have around 55 feeder primary schools and 186 students in Year 7 so please do be mindful to make your comments productive and helpful. We would really welcome your positive feedback as well as your suggestions for improvements. (Like our students, positive feedback is important to us too!) Please fill in the survey using this link: [Transition Parent/Carer Feedback Form](#).

Some Key Reminders for Next Half Term:

Homework - The students will now be set the full quota of homework. Please do encourage your child to stick to the time limit or draw a line to show when they went over the time allocated. [Year 7 Homework Timetable](#).

Behaviour Points - Will result in behaviour sanctions after half term.

Lockers - Please encourage your child to use their lockers; many are carrying around PE kits all day.

Dropping Items to Reception - After half term, we will no longer accept items that students have forgotten being dropped in reception (*except lunch or medication*).

Changing after PE - Please remind your child to ensure they pack only their own clothes when changing from PE into school uniform. We have had a couple of instances where a blazer, blouse and shoes have disappeared in the changing room, changing back into school uniform. Please also check your child's kit bag regularly next half term whilst children are getting used to changing.

Lost Property - This is in two places: outside the pastoral hub by Maddie's Garden and outside PE. Every Friday at lunchtime, any unclaimed items are taken to the second-hand uniform shop, which is located at the bottom of D block. Students can check this on a Friday to see if their lost property is there. At the end of each half term, we put out all lost property at the back of the main hall and students are notified of this in the Student Bulletin. Unclaimed items are then either absorbed for sale into the second-hand uniform shop, as seconds for PE or removed from site and given to charity, where appropriate.

ScoPay - This first half term we have permitted all Year 7 cafeteria accounts to become overdrawn to ensure your child has uninterrupted access to food and refreshment from the cafeteria. After half term, this feature will be removed from your child's account, and we would like to remind parents to regularly check that their child's cafeteria account has adequate funds or set up an automatic top up (available in account settings).

Devices - Please make sure your child has a fully charged device for school.

School Managed Devices Filter – Update - YouTube (in restricted mode) is now unblocked for home access on these devices. BBC iPlayer has also been unblocked but with restricted mode i.e. students can't watch programmes recommending parental guidance. Please do report back to the IT helpdesk so we can investigate if any other required websites appear to be blocked.

Student Bulletin/Room Changes - If your child has a room change for any of their lessons, these are published on the pastoral hub notice board as well as on electronic timetables and student bulletin. It is important that your child checks the student bulletin every day on Edulink so that they do not miss any important updates.

Uniform - Jewellery: please remind your child about acceptable items, sanctions will be given after half term for inappropriate jewellery. **Hair ties** - please remember no fancy clips, just plain black or blue scrunchie, hair band or simple hair clip may be used. The uniform information can be found in more detail on page 28 of the: [New Parent Guide](#).

Mobile Phones - The relevant area of the Behaviour for Learning Policy for mobile phones pouches will go live for students in Years 7–9 from **Monday 3rd November**.

Important Dates

- Year 7 Parents' Evening (virtual): Thursday 4th December
- Year 7 Parental Engagement Evening (virtual): Tuesday 24th February 2026

As a final reminder, many of the essential things the students need to know or remember are in our Year 7 student guide for easy reference - [Year 7 Student Guide](#).

On behalf of myself and the pastoral team, we wish you a happy half term break

Yours faithfully,

Charlotte Lewis

Head of Learning Lower School and PSHE Lead.