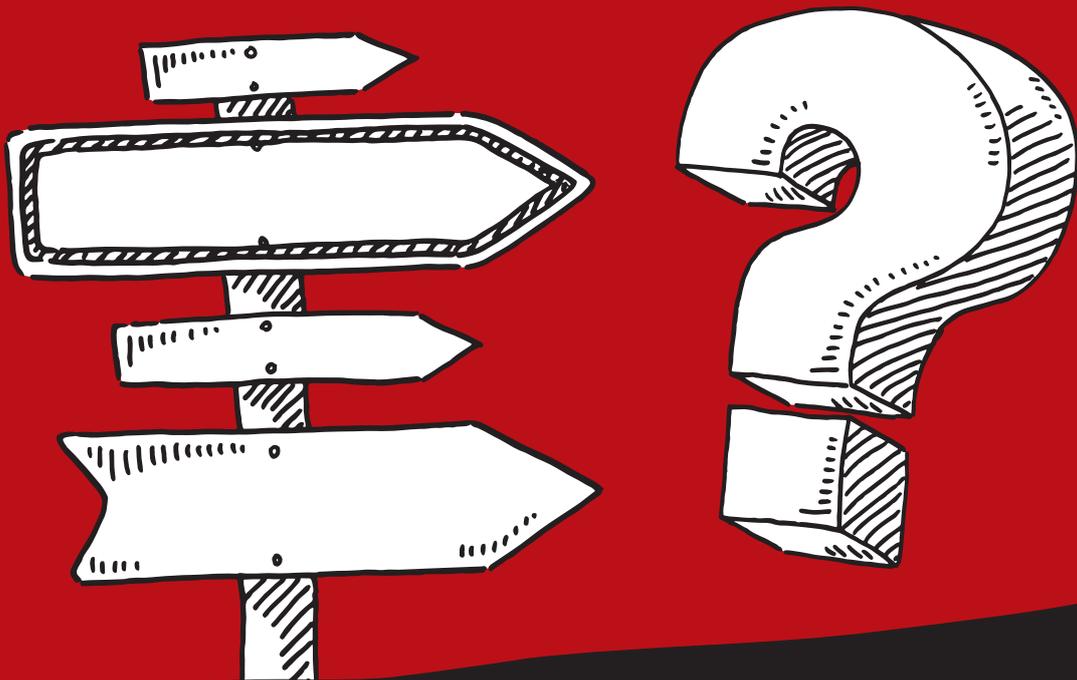
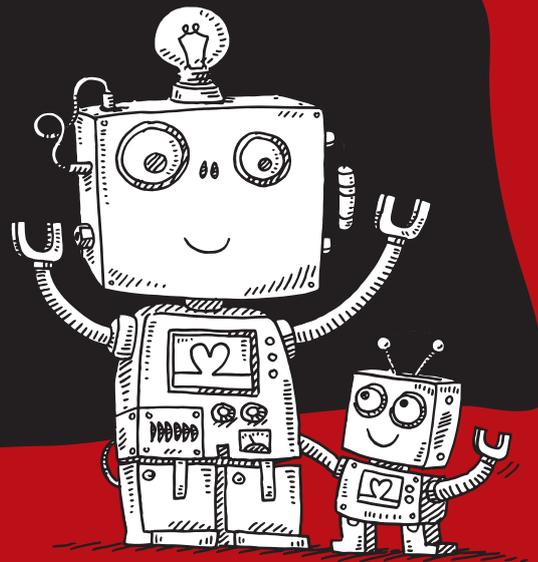
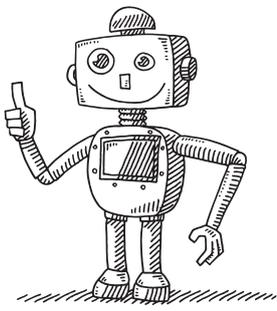


IS YOUR CHILD IN YEAR 6?



A parent's
guide to making
the move from
Year 6 to Year 7





Don't worry!

Moving up to high school from primary or junior school is usually called **transition**. This move can be tricky for lots of students for lots of reasons. And it can cause worries for the parents too.

Recent research of parents, teachers and students from over ten secondary schools, found that **parents worry the most about:**

Bullying

Safety

The amount of homework

Adjusting to having lots of teachers

Making new friends

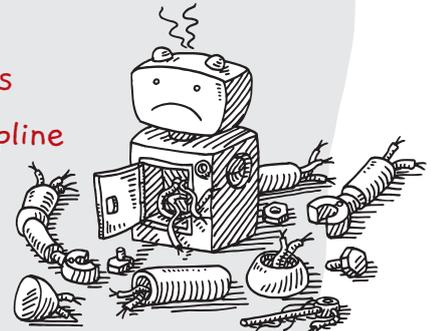
And their **children worry most** about:

Getting lost

Losing old friends

**Homework, discipline
and detentions**

Being bullied



BUT...

The researchers also found the children's concerns about getting lost and being bullied reduce **very** quickly, within the first term at secondary school. And worries about losing old friends, homework, discipline and detentions reduced by the end of Year 7.

In the same way that children's worries faded once they had started at secondary school, so did their parents'.

At the end of their child's first year at secondary school, **8 out of 10 parents** thought that they had settled in well:

With the work

Socially, with teachers

Socially, with other students



Even children who did not get into the school they had wanted to, were just as settled at the end of Year 7 as those that did.

Perhaps unsurprisingly, parents who already have a child move to secondary school were less concerned about their current child making the move. Although it can be a stressful time, once

parents know what the routine at secondary school is like, they are likely to be less worried.

It will come as no surprise to learn that parents who already have a child at secondary school were less concerned about their current child making the move. In other words, although it can be a stressful time, once parents know what the routine at secondary school is like, they are likely to worry a lot less.

This means one of the best ways to support your child moving up to secondary school and to help you and your child from worrying, is to do a bit of research into the new school or possible new school by going along to the open evenings.

Don't just look round the school you want in case you don't get in, look round lots, so you and your child know more about what ever school your child gets sent to.

If you can't make the open evenings, check out their website or arrange another time to look round with the school if that is better for you.

Remember that change can be positive and exciting!

Choosing a secondary school

✓ Know all your options

Your child can apply to any of the schools across the city, perhaps more than you did when you went to school. When you apply for your child's secondary school place, this is called a **preference** and does not mean you will get a place at that school. It is a starting point for the admissions team who then check it against the school admissions criterion.

Around 90% of children do get the school they preferred but it is best to be open to the possibility you may not get your first or any of your preferences of school and let your child be aware too. This may save a lot of stress later if you are unsuccessful in your options.

Remember:

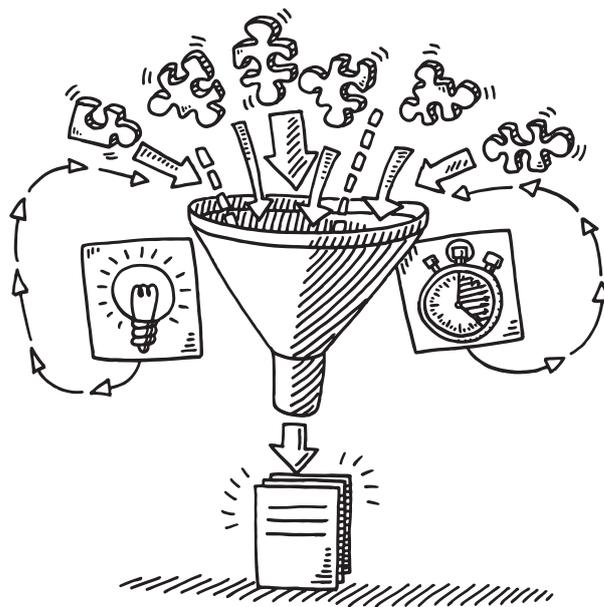
- Not all schools work to a catchment area
- Living in a catchment area does not mean you will get a place at that school. This is only one way schools can allocate places, especially if they are oversubscribed
- There are lots more things that schools consider than feeder schools or catchment so the chances of getting into your preferred school changes yearly with each new year group
- Not all city secondary schools give priority to attending traditional feeder schools
- You are free to look into sending your child to any of the Norwich city schools
- Visit as many schools as you can with your child during the following months whilst they have open days and open evenings for you to look round. They are usually listed on their website
- Talk about all the choices with your child

✓ How your school place is allocated

The criteria admissions use to allocate a school place is not only based on your preference and where you live. It is important you and your child understand that you may not get a place at your first preferred school. This is especially important when looking at schools which are commonly oversubscribed. Each school has their own set of criteria for deciding on who to admit once they are full.

Some examples include:

- **Siblings already in the school**
- **Looked after children or those in care**
- **Children who hold Education & Health Care Plans**
- **Children with a specific musical or other special ability sought by that school**



Each school has a different list, please check the school admission policy online for the school that you are applying to:

<http://csapps.norfolk.gov.uk/schoolfinder/default.asp>

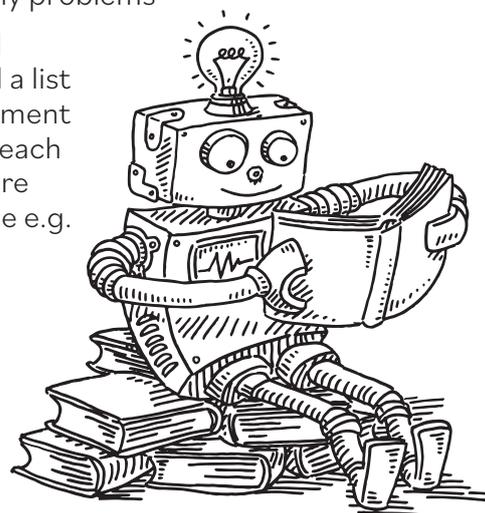
Helping your child start at their new school

✓ Before they start school

- The school will send you LOTS of information before September, have a good look over it all
- Go along to your new school's open evening or event for parents in the summer after you have your allocated place. This will give you the chance to ask any questions you and your child might have
- Talk about the way they will get to school, drive past it or do a dry run to practice the way a few times
- Help them learn to tie their tie - if it's not a clip on!
- Have a look at the school's website and/or information booklet the school sends you together to open that conversation about the fun stuff like afterschool clubs and exciting new subjects
- Talking to your child about the move to high school is likely to help both of you feel much happier and excited about it!

✓ Once they start...

- Check their homework diary/planner
- Encourage your child to make sure that they understand the instructions for the homework task before they leave the lesson, and to start their homework early so that they can get help if they have any problems
- Keep a school timetable and a list of what equipment is needed for each day somewhere visible at home e.g. on the fridge



We hope you have found this information useful. Please speak to the schools about any other concerns you have specific to your child.

For more information on transport, catchments etc. please see the County Council Admissions website <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/education-and-learning/schools/school-admissions/transfer-to-secondary-school>

The study this information is taken from is the School Transition & Adjustment Research Study (STARS) carried out by a team from University College London. It surveyed two thousand young people, their parents and their teachers, during the move to ten secondary schools from around South-East England. This project was funded by the Nuffield Foundation. For their detailed findings please visit: www.ucl.ac.uk/stars