

How I felt about starting Cockermouth School:

I felt really nervous because I didn't know who my teachers were going to be, how I would find my way around the school and whether I would make any new friends.

What I was looking forward to:

I was looking forward to all of the new subjects available and going into more depth in the subjects I had been taught at primary school.

What my first week of school was like:

- During the first couple of days, the first few lessons were spent in our form groups, playing "getting to know you" games. This helped ease my nerves about making new friends.
- At the end of each lesson, we would line up either in the hall or on the Y7 playground and our next teacher would escort us to our next lesson. This helped me to get to know my way around school.
- In some subjects we played more "get to know you" games. This helped us get to know our teacher and improve our friendships with our classmates.

My advice to you if you are feeling nervous:

Try not to worry as everyone there will help you. You will make friends and find your way around the building really quickly. Remember everyone there has been in the same position at some point! Make sure you start practising



The BIG questions:

Homework – We get given regular homework from most subjects which is organised on Firefly. We get more than we did at primary school but it is not as much as a lot of people think! Teachers award positive points for good homework.

Finding your way around – Teachers show you around in the first week by taking you to the next lesson. If you do get lost there are teachers and older students in the corridor who will help you find your way. It doesn't take long to learn your way around.

Older students – The older students are willing to help you – just make sure you ask!

What life is like at Cockermouth School:

- There are a wider variety of clubs compared to primary school.
- We get to use more equipment during lessons for example Bunsen burners in science.
- P.E is much better because we have a wide variety of spaces for our lessons. Cross country through the river and forest is especially good!
- There are much more choices at lunch time.
- The school is a very busy place but after a week or two you get used to it.
- The library is a great resource with computers and lots of books!
- The Y7 playground is separate from the rest of the school and it is good to be able to meet up with friends from different forms/classes there.
- Teachers can award positive points (or negative) depending on your behaviour and attitude to learning.