

# Pathfinder Schools



The journey through Pathfinder Schools

*'Your life is a story of transition. You are always leaving one chapter behind while moving on to the next.'*

We know how important it is to prepare ourselves and our children for change and uncertainty and at Pathfinder Schools we encourage our pupils to see change as an exciting opportunity. We are naturally uncertain when things change around us, even more so when the world and routines we know have been upended, as in recent times. That's why, across our schools, we plan carefully for times of change so that pupils feel safe and secure. We would like to share with you some of the ways we support our pupils to manage change positively so that they are ready for both the next stage in their educational journey and for life's uncertainties and new adventures beyond the school gate.



At Pathfinder Schools we believe that life is about more than success; it's about greatness. To fully develop the greatness within every one of us we need to be confident to face all of life's twists and turns with a smile on our face. Managing change positively will help us to do just that. This year transition has looked a bit different across our schools due to the restrictions in place but we have not let that stand in our way.

At Pathfinder Schools, we value INDEPENDENCE and COLLABORATION, so each school offers their own approach to transition at key points in the school journey. Here are some of the ways our primary schools support pupils as they enter EYFS and KS1, then transition to KS2. The provision for pupils who transition onto Montsaye Academy is outlined on the next page.

## Early Years Foundation Stage

Parent chat sessions and  
information evenings

Stay and Play

Picnic Afternoon

Phonics information evenings

Forest School sessions

Part-time start

Transition Days to meet the  
teacher and classmates

Video welcome messages  
from staff



## into Key Stage 1

Transition Days to meet the  
staff and see the new  
classroom

Transition meetings between  
teachers

Records of work and  
achievement shared with new  
teacher

Story times for children to get  
to know their new teachers

## then Key Stage 2

Transition Days to meet the  
staff and see the new  
classroom

Transition meetings between  
teachers

Records of work and  
achievement shared with new  
teacher

Activities through the year  
when COVID allows for pupils  
to get ready to move into Yr 3

Extra visit for those pupils who  
may find transition tricky for  
whatever reason



Follow the journey now into Montsaye Academy where the students benefit from the strong partnerships between Pathfinder Schools.



Summer School places are made available to Pathfinder students. A week of activity, learning and fun to help prepare for Year 7

Pathfinder Schools  
Year 6



Subject specialists visit the primary schools so that students can experience a subject specific lesson.



## Montsaye Academy

- Our team at Montsaye meet with every Year 6 teacher so that we can learn about your child's interests, learning and any specific support they would benefit from.
- We visit the Year 6 classes to share an assembly, teach subject specific lessons and get to know the students face-to-face.
- We engage your child with our ERA values to help them understand what kind of learner we will help them be.
- The transition booklet, completed by your child, is shared with their tutor to ensure that we can begin to know students individually.
- Every second of learning is precious, therefore we gather as much information as possible about student strengths and areas they might need support in before they arrive at Montsaye Academy.



All Y6 families invited to an individual virtual meeting with one of the SLT or Progress Leader team. Fantastic opportunity for families ask questions and learn about values and expectations.



Montsaye Academy  
Year 7

Off to a flying start...CATS tests, completed in Year 6, mean we can plan to meet your child's specific needs as soon as they arrive in September.



Montsaye staff including Mrs Gabbi have been into my primary school a few times. We have had assemblies about Montsaye and my Progress Leader and some 6<sup>th</sup> Form students talked to us about what it would be like at Montsaye. We were also able to ask questions and it made me feel excited about joining. I had also been to Montsaye in Y5 for some lessons and all of this helped me make the decision to join Montsaye and I am glad I did.

One of the reasons I like being at Montsaye Academy is the staff. I remember when I started and all the teachers were so nice and helpful especially when I got lost. The students are also very helpful and together make a great school community.

## What do our students say?

Watch out for information about our Pupil Parliament

On Transfer Day I felt really nervous as the school seemed so much bigger than my primary school. I loved the day though it was a great experience and I learnt what it would be like in Y7. After that day I wasn't as nervous and was actually looking forward to Y7.

On the first day of Y7 I was really nervous but my form tutor and teachers helped me. They showed me around the school and let me talk to some students in Y11 about the school and they gave me some useful tips and told me not to be nervous and that I would enjoy it here. They were right by the end of the first week I felt so happy.



Click on the button to visit a Pathfinder School



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SCHOOLS**  
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