



Kings Langley
Secondary



Bedmond
Primary



Bovingdon
Primary Academy



Kings Langley
Primary



Nash Mills
Church of England
Primary



Sarratt
Church of England
Primary



St Pauls Chipperfield
Church of England
Primary



Kings Langley Partnership of Schools

Working Together to Prepare our Children for the Challenges of Tomorrow

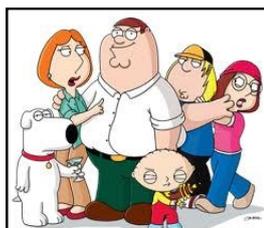
Top Tips for Secondary School

A Guide for Parents

How you can help make the transition easier



- Build your child's confidence. Settling in well is all about self-esteem. Children with high self-esteem are less likely to be bullied, or to bully, or belong to gangs. They are more likely to gather a wide circle of friends. They can confidently say "no" to anything with which they don't feel comfortable. So tell them how great they are. When did you last pay them a compliment? They don't have to have done anything special to deserve one; a compliment on how well they look after a pet, or that they are kind and thoughtful, goes a long way. Do this daily and watch their confidence grow.



- Listen to their fears. Your child is possibly anxious and also afraid their concerns will appear trivial. For instance, if they become lost in the maze of corridors, what should they do? They could make their way to the school office—they should have a map—or find a pupil or teacher to direct them. What they shouldn't do is hide in the toilets until the lesson is over. Talk through the options with them. Do this for every concern they may have so that they know you take it seriously.



- Remind your child that being a good friend, especially to shy and quiet children, is one way to make friends. Be encouraging if they want to invite friends home and suggest it if they don't.
- Show that you feel positive about their school and "talk it up" even if it wasn't your first choice or you lost an admissions appeal. If you have high expectations, these will be sensed by your child.

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- Stick to the uniform code. Your child will feel more comfortable from day one.
- Have a trial run of the route, especially if they walk or cycle. If they miss a school bus home you need to talk through what they will do, especially if you are working and can't pick them up straightaway.
- Make sure they have emergency money and credit on their mobile phone—if it's allowed in school.



- In the early days you should check their homework diary daily and if it looks empty, check with other parents or the school. Your child may simply forget to write it down.
- Encourage them to join lunchtime or after school clubs. They are a great way to make friends. If after half a term they really don't enjoy it, they can drop it.
- Give your child a few weeks to settle in. Ensure you know who to contact for any situation, and the schools preferred means of contact. If they are having any problems, social or educational, make an appointment to see their form tutor.