

Dear Future Farmor's Student,

Starting a new school can feel a bit scary, but I want you to know that you're not alone—and it gets better really quickly!

I'm going to tell you what it's really like here at Farmor's and to answer some of the questions you might have.

Will I make friends?

Absolutely! On my transition days, I didn't know many people, but we did activities in tutor groups that helped everyone talk and get to know each other.

I met some of my closest friends through clubs, lessons, and even on school trips like the PGL trip at the end of the year. Just be yourself and try chatting to people—it's easier than you think.

What are the staff like?

The staff are kind and helpful. They only raise their voices if the class is being silly, but they're not scary. Most of them learn your name quickly, and they always help if you're lost or stuck.

It's also great having subject specialists like science or music teachers—they really know what they're doing and make the lessons more interesting.

Are there any clubs?

Yes—so many! You can choose from sports (football, netball, hockey, rugby), creative clubs (animation, choir, debate), and fun ones like LEGO, chess, eco club, and more. The library is open every day before school, at break and at lunch. Our school dog, Lola, sometimes comes to join us.

You can go to clubs even if your friends don't—it's a great way to meet people with the same interests.

I've even been to events and matches because of clubs, like football fixtures and choir concerts.

What if I get lost?

Everyone does at first! But it's not a big deal. Student services are amazing and can help you find your class.

Teachers, prefects, and even other students will guide you if you ask. There are also maps in your planner, and once you've walked around a bit, it gets easier.

What are detentions like?

I haven't had a detention (and I hope I never do!), but from what I've heard, they're not too bad.

There's also homework support, where you have to finish any homework you forgot. Homework club at lunchtime is really helpful because if you're stuck or didn't have time at home, you can go there, get help from teachers, and stay out of trouble. It's a good way to keep on top of everything.

Is there bullying?

Bullying is rare here, and it's taken seriously. If you're picked on, you can always talk to a teacher, student services, or a trusted adult. They'll listen and help sort things out.

Some of us have had small issues (like unkind comments), but they get sorted out quickly.

Is the timetable hard to follow?

Not really. It's split into Week A and Week B. Make sure your timetable is stuck onto the front of your equipment folder to help you. If you lose your timetable, just ask your tutor—they'll print you a new one.

How does the canteen work?

The food is great! You queue by year group outside the canteen, and when you go in, you scan your fingerprint to pay.

There's hot and cold food, and lots of variety (I recommend the cheesy garlic bread and shortbread).

Year 7s are even let out of class early so we can eat before the queues get too long.

Is Farmor's better than primary school?

Definitely. You get more independence, lots of different teachers who really know their subjects, and way more activities to choose from.

It's a bit harder, but in a good way—it challenges you and helps you grow.

What's the bus journey like?

If you take the bus, it's relaxed. Some people talk to friends, listen to music, or do homework (but ideally wait until you are at home when it is quieter and you can work at a table).

If it's a long ride, just bring headphones or a snack. I walk, and that's good too—it wakes me up in the morning!

Will I be happy?

Yes, you will, most of the time because Farmor's is a happy place to be. It might take a week or two to settle in, but soon you'll know your way around, find great friends, have fun and learn lots of interesting things.

Sometimes unhappy things might happen in your life and that can be tough – but there are always staff at Farmor's who will support you and give you the best help they can.

Our advice is to get involved in things, be open to meeting new people, and ask for help when you need it. Everyone wants to help you succeed.

Welcome to Farmor's School from Year 7 students