

Navigating the New: Essential Tips for Students Transitioning Schools

Insights and Advice from Students Who Have Already Made the Move

For middle and high school students, the thought of changing schools can be daunting, but with the right guidance, it can quickly become a rewarding experience. The good news is that many others have taken the journey as “the new kid in school” before, and they have a wealth of wisdom to share. We have collected some of the best tips from former York Catholic students that provide practical advice and encouragement on everything from getting organized for academic success to making new friends. New students can use these tips as a checklist to visualize their progress toward becoming fully at ease in their new school.



TIPS TO GET ORGANIZED

- ✓ Keep a class schedule taped to the inside of your locker, and always carry a copy with you.
- ✓ Review daily for quizzes and tests.
- ✓ Use your study hall for homework. The payoffs are worth it.
- ✓ Write down your assignments so you do not forget.
- ✓ Be prepared for classes to reduce the stress of school dramatically.

TIPS TO GET OUT THERE

- ✓ Be yourself; you'll make more friends.
- ✓ Get involved in an extracurricular activity, club, or sport.
- ✓ Do not be afraid to talk to your teachers when you need help.
- ✓ Make friends with others who are starting off new.

TIPS TO CREATE GOOD HABITS

- ✓ Get rest each day. Falling asleep in school can be very embarrassing!
- ✓ Learn time management skills.
- ✓ Respect your teachers and your classmates.
- ✓ Keep your phone turned off and put away so you can focus on your learning.

BONUS TIP: “DON'T WORRY IF YOU FALL DOWN THE STAIRS”

This tip might sound oddly specific, and as one former student noted, “We have all been there at least once!” Obviously, that is a bit of an exaggeration, but this advice can be translated into the idea of giving yourself—and everyone around you—a little grace. Students should remember: you're starting something new, and at the beginning of a fresh school year or semester, everyone else is, too! Keep your head up and stay positive as you get comfortable in this new environment and situation. Before long, your new school will feel familiar and like a place you've always belonged.



Parents: Is Your Student Ready for a School Change?
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