



# Clevedon School

BE KIND. BE BRILLIANT

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Headteacher: Jim Smith

28<sup>th</sup> August 2025

Dear Year 7 Families,

Following on from our main school letter, I wanted to write directly to our new Year 7 families to warmly welcome you to Clevedon School and to share some of the small but important details that help make the transition to secondary school a smooth and positive experience. This letter is for both students and families and is intended to reassure and excite you ahead of your first day!

### **“Be Kind, Be Brilliant” - it’s simple!**

At Clevedon School, our motto - *Be Kind, Be Brilliant* - sits at the heart of everything we do. It’s a simple but powerful message that we expect every member of our school community to live by. It means giving your best, being thoughtful and respectful, and aiming high in everything you do.

### **The night before - it’s OK to be nervous!**

We know that Tuesday evening might feel a little strange. Feeling a mix of nerves and excitement is completely normal - we’ll be feeling it too! Try to get everything ready the night before: uniform laid out, bag packed (you won’t need your PE kit on the first day), and a clear plan of what time to leave so you can arrive punctually.

### **Travelling by Minibus from Portishead or Yatton**

If you are travelling to school by minibus from Portishead or Yatton, please follow the normal timings as outlined in the transport correspondence you have already received. There are no changes to the schedule for the first day, so please be ready at your stop on time. Staff will be available to greet you when you arrive at school.

### **The first day - it begins!**

Believe it or not, our staff will be a little bit nervous too! A new year brings new plans, new staff, and new leaders - so you’re not alone in feeling that flutter in your stomach. We even have a new building to introduce you to! We’re absolutely committed to making your first day a success, so it will be a deep breath for all of us!

Please arrive on site **no earlier than 8.15am** and head straight to the steps by the main school hall. I’ll be there to welcome you alongside Mr Kent and your Heads of House. Make sure your uniform is worn correctly - but don’t worry if there’s a small issue; our staff will be on hand to support you.

**Please note:** Parents are not permitted on the school site for drop-off or pick-up unless prior permission has been granted.

### **After assembly - where do I go?**

You'll spend an extended session with your tutor to help you settle in, get to know the school, and learn where key areas are. During this time, only Sixth Form students will be on site, meaning you'll have space to explore and adjust at your own pace.

### **What lessons will I have?**

You'll start following your timetable from **Period 4 onwards**. Many of your classes will be with the same learning group, so you'll be able to help each other out. Your tutor will give you your timetable in the morning - take time to learn it and keep it safe (a blazer pocket is a great place for a spare copy!).

### **Feeling hungry? Here's what to expect at break and lunchtime**

At break and lunch, you can eat in the Hall, at the picnic benches, or under the giant canopies at the back of the school.

We have three food outlets:

- The Kitchen - full menu
- V-Shed - vegetarian and vegan options
- The Kiosk - grab-and-go items

To support your first few weeks, **Year 7 students get a 10-minute early lunch** for the first two weeks of term. Once you've eaten and cleared away your rubbish, feel free to enjoy your break, catch up with friends, or explore the clubs and activities on offer.

Staff are always on duty and can be easily spotted in bright yellow jackets or fluorescent tabards - just ask if you need anything!

### **School photos - smile!**

On your first day, you'll also have your school photo taken. Teachers will guide you through the process. Please wear your uniform smartly... and don't forget to smile! This photo will follow you through your time at Clevedon - even up to your Year 11 Leavers' Book or 18th birthday celebrations!

### **End of the day - going home safely**

After Lesson 6, your teacher will dismiss you. You'll leave school either through the main entrance or via the back path (Ripple Steps).

Please follow these important guidelines when leaving:

- Always wear full school uniform
- Stick to footpaths - never walk through the car park
- Walk on the pavement along Valley Road
- If cycling, please wear a helmet and walk your bike to the end of Valley Road before riding
- Cross all roads safely and stay alert
- Continue to *Be Kind and Be Brilliant* - we represent Clevedon School in everything we do and we love hearing stories where our students have helped others in the community or acted in a kind and brilliant way on their way home.

We regularly receive lovely feedback from members of the community about how polite and smart our students are - we know you'll continue this tradition.

**Mobile Phones – “Gate-to-Gate” policy**

We operate a “Gate-to-Gate” mobile phone policy. This means phones must be turned off and kept in your bag throughout the school day. If you ever need to contact home urgently, just ask a teacher or go to Student Reception - we’re always here to help.

**Homework - not yet!**

Don’t worry - you won’t receive any homework in the first two weeks of term. This gives you time to adjust and settle in and get used to how our systems work.

**Wow - Your first day is done!**

Before you know it, your first day will be over! You’ll have learned a lot and might still have a few questions - and that’s OK. It will all become clear in time. Just remember: be kind, be brilliant, and always ask a member of staff if you’re unsure about anything.



We’re so excited to meet you and begin this journey together.

If you have any questions before the start of term, feel free to contact us at [office@clevedonschool.org.uk](mailto:office@clevedonschool.org.uk) and we’ll be happy to help.

Enjoy the rest of your summer, and we look forward to welcoming you to Clevedon School on **Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September from 8.15am onwards.**

Yours sincerely,

Mr. Sam Thomas  
**Assistant Headteacher**