

# GTS Transition Leaders



Hello,

My name is Lucas and I'm in Year 7 and in [Discovery House](#).

Before I came to GTS I was at Langtree. When I came up to GTS I was nervous but the nerves went away quite quickly, the school felt huge at first and I wasn't sure how I was going to remember my way around but soon worked it out! My favourite subjects are art, science and maths! I like to hang around with my friends at break time and we usually go near the AstroTurf.

Out of school I go to kickboxing which is held in the school gym. I like to draw and play basketball at home.

You are bound to be feeling nervous now but I assure you that you will settle in quickly and all of us transition leaders are here to help.

Lucas Doherty [DrLMD](#)

Hi,

My name is Leah Cooper and I am just finishing Year seven. I remember my transition evening a year ago. I was very nervous; my Mum and Dad came with me to offer their support and I really enjoyed myself and couldn't wait to start Year seven in September. I was very worried I wouldn't be able to find my way around without getting lost, and to make matters worse I was on crutches as I injured my foot, but all the teachers and students were very helpful and did everything they could to make sure I was getting all the support I needed. I expected GTS to be way more difficult than it was.

Transition camp was very fun, and I really enjoyed myself. I met a lot of new people who were nice and who are still my friends now. Transition week was also very fun, we did lots of fun activities and I learnt a lot.

Leah Cooper [DrCS](#)

When I first came to GTS, my worry was that I would be late for lessons-although the maps around the school helped me learn where to go. It took me a couple of weeks to get used to where I was going.

I liked it that there was a structure to the day. 50 minutes this lesson, 100 minutes on another. Also, it makes it interesting as every term, your timetable changes. In GTS, I have found new subjects that I enjoy, like Big History, varying from chemistry, to religion, to biology. I have always had a liking for Science.

All the teachers were, and are really supportive. giving us feedback on our work so then we can change it or reflect on it. GTS has excellent teachers, brilliant lessons and much more.

By Aidan Pearce [DrTNS](#)

My name is Katie Glover, and I'm one of the transition leaders at GTS.

As a transition team, we wanted you to know a little bit about us. At this time last year, I was about to leave primary school, like you're about to do now. You might be feeling the same way as I did. I remember feeling nervous and a bit scared. One of the ways I felt less scared was when I found out about others already at school.

I would like to tell you a bit about myself. At school my favourite lesson is PE, the teachers are great. They have been very supportive during lockdown.

When I'm not at school I like to spend time with my pets and go down to the stables.

I hope to meet you soon and try not to worry too much. [DrCS](#)

Discovery House

# GTS Transition Leaders



Hi

My name is Ella. I came from a really small primary school so I was really scared about making friends and getting lost. The transition leaders really helped me so I want to help all of you.

A typical day at GTS is at 08:50 when the bell goes you go to your tutor then the bell goes again for your first lesson. After that it is break time. You can go to the snack shack or the dining hall. Then it's time for your second lesson, after that it is lunch time. If you have school dinners you can have a pasta pot or a pizza, but there are also lots of other things you can have. Then it's your last lesson of the day. At lunch and after school there are clubs you can do. I

f you get lost or you need help, find someone wearing a green badge with the school logo on it, and they will help you. See you all in September!

Elle Gabe [EgTT](#)

My name is Frankie and I am one of the Transition Leaders this year at GTS.

When I first came up to GTS last year, I was very nervous but with the help of the Transition Leaders that were there, I soon settled in and made many new friends. At first it will seem very daunting but on your first day you spend a lot of time with your tutor group, then you go off and do some lessons. Your tutor group is where you go most mornings to be registered. You also go there on a Thursday afternoon for house time.

In year 7 you get set 3 different challenges to complete. Each term you will get a new challenge, depending on what challenge you have at the time will depend on the subject you have that term.

I have enjoyed my first year at GTS and I'm sure you will to. We hope to see you next year.

Frankie Potts [EgAMW](#)

To year 6,

It can be scary moving to secondary school. I was scared that I wouldn't meet any new friends but I did.

When I went into my class for the first time I only stayed with people from my primary school but now I know my whole class and they can be fun when they want to be. My favourite thing about GTS is the food and PE. The one thing I wanted when I went to secondary school was good food. The PE staff are so friendly and kind it makes PE that much better. I also found my way around the school really quickly so if I can then you can.

Regards

Lauren Brown [EgAMW](#)

Hello!

My name is Tash and I am one of the transition leaders. I do a lot of sports including netball, biking and cross country. I am on the school netball team and we have won nearly every one of our matches so if you like netball I recommend you join the team when you come into year 7. My favourite subjects are art and PE.

When I first came into year seven I was nervous but all of the year 6's from my primary were coming to the same secondary school however there were kids that were the only person from their primary but when you go into year 7 every has the same feelings and you make new friends the second you come in. Hope you settle in well.

Natasha Howard [EgAMW](#)

Endurance House

# GTS Transition Leaders



When I was about to go up to GTS, I was fairly nervous because I had come from a small primary school. However, after starting GTS, I quickly settled in. There was nothing really to worry about; the teachers were all really nice and the older students were very helpful when it came to finding my way around school.

I really liked the 100 minute lessons because the longer amount of time meant that I could concentrate better on the work and not be in a rush. There was a fair bit of homework but the library was always open at break, lunch and after school. There was also lots of afterschool clubs to take part in and lots of options for musical instruments to play. You have probably already been sorted into your school houses (Resolution, Endeavour, Discovery and Endurance). They are important because people of the same house would be in your tutor and assemblies, your house will be your sports day team and the points you earn will go towards your houses points. That is another thing I really like about GTS. There are lots of competitions to take part in throughout the year, which means that you can earn extra points for your house. You can also earn points from doing well in certain subjects, doing something especially good and sports day.

Good luck to all the year 6s transitioning into year 7. One tip I would give is to always ask an older student or a member of staff if you are unsure of anything. Enjoy your first year of GTS.

Isla Kingdon [EgTT](#)

Endurance House

Hello, my name is Donna. I am a transition leader at GTS.

When I first started GTS one of my main worries was getting lost. I know that sounds a bit weird, but I was worried I would get lost and be late to class. Luckily, GTS is easy to find your way around. Also, the teachers are nice and don't tell you off if you are late for your classes on the first few days.

Just remember the school runs in circles and you don't need to worry about getting lost. If you are anxious you can always speak to your tutor. They are kind and will always help you if you are worried.

Donna Hookway [EgTK](#)

Hi!

My names Brooke and I am a transition leader for the house Endurance. When I first came to GTS I was feeling a bit nervous and scared as I thought it was a huge school, turns out there is nothing to be scared of. Once you walk around the school for a couple of weeks you find out that it is just a big loop.

Everyone has the right to be scared as they go up because secondary schools are genuinely bigger than primary schools. Everybody there is very nice and will help you with directions like I will and even people who are not transition leaders will still help you. Sometimes the year 11 boys can make it a bit intimidating at first as they all tend to stand in big groups either side of the corridor but when you get used to it it's not weird at all.

I recommend getting a locker as when you get further into the school days you end up having to carry your books around with you (and there are quite a few!). All of the classes are really fun especially art, science and catering. At GTS there are lots of fun opportunity's you can take (and I recommend taking them). Each house has a different wet room (that I like to call the room of requirement) so when it is raining and the hall is full you can eat lunch in there. So when you go up you should ask your tutors about where yours is (Endurance's is in the English corridor). GTS is such a fun school to go to there is so much to learn and to do! [EgIEW](#)

# GTS Transition Leaders



Hello Year 6's!

I hope you are excited to move up from your primary schools to GTS. If not, that is alright, I was nervous when I was moving up too. My name is Aaron Bryant and I am a transition leader at GTS. I am glad that I am helping those younger than me to move up. It's fun here at GTS, we learn all sorts of cool stuff. There are two different languages we can learn at GTS and loads of other subjects that may be of interest to you. Some of my personal favourites are Science and Computing Science (more commonly called ICT on your timetable). Everyone at GTS is friendly and nice, everyone is willing to help if you need it.

If you have any worries about moving up it is alright, I had a few worries myself. I was worried that I would not know enough, particularly maths. But when I arrived, I had a lovely smooth transition. Some of you may find the transition easier than me, others may find it harder than me. Whatever it is like, I am sure you are all capable of pulling through and becoming a lovely group of year 7's. When you move up, try not to let worries cloud your mind. GTS will make sure your transition is nice and smooth so you can get a nice start in your first years of secondary school.

I really like being at GTS. Every day at GTS we have 6 periods. 1-2, then break, 3-4, then lunch, 5-6 then leaving time. Most of the time in your periods you will have 100-minute lessons (2 periods) and you may also have half (50 minute) lessons (1 period) so every day you will have 3-6 lessons. (or 300 minutes of learning).

Going to secondary school doesn't just affect school days or the time you are at school, it also affects the whole day. For example, in my case going to GTS means that I know a lot of people, and so when I go to Scouts I know most of the people there. After school is done you may do some after school clubs. For me on Tuesdays I do Animation Club afterschool, and on Wednesdays I do Warhammer club. There are also lots of clubs and activities to do in lunch and break times, like chess club and cardio cave.

Aaron Bryant [EbKLP](#)

Endeavour House

Hello, I'm Hannah.

I like reading, baking and chatting! I go to my local youth club and volunteer at my local rainbows as a young leader. Don't worry if you have never been to the school before, I hadn't stepped foot in the school until I started there and about two and a half months before I started I hadn't even heard of Great Torrington. I quickly made friends and within a week or two I knew where I was going.

The library is really good and has a good range of books from history to mysteries and from adventure to arts and crafts. At the start of the school day we have tutor group or assembly and then we have one hundred minutes' worth of lessons. Break time is next and afterwards 100 minutes' worth of lessons again. After that we have lunch and you can have school dinners (they are really nice) or packed lunch. Finally, we have a last one hundred minutes' worth of lessons then it is home time at 3:10. I hope that gave you an Idea about GTS and that you feel happier about going to school in September.

Hannah Owen [EbDCR](#)

Hello,

My name is Charlotte I am almost 12. When I first joined GTS, the transition week helped me overcome my nervousness. When I was at transition week, I got to know people more and to make new friends. When I started my first day at the school year 8 lead me to my classes so I would not get lost. Even though there is no transition week this school is very welcoming so I am sure you will get on well.

Charlotte Reed [EbCVF](#)

# GTS Transition Leaders



Dear all Year 6s

My name is Lucy and I am a transition leader. Unfortunately, you will not be going to camp this year due to the coronavirus but that is alright, as all the transition leaders will still be there in the school to help you out when we return. GTS is a great place to be. The teachers are brilliant and the students are all really nice. On my first day, I will admit that I was nervous but then it became easy. It's easy to make friends, remember, everyone is the same as you. They are all experiencing something new. All lessons are enjoyable, depending on what subjects you like. My personal favourites are art, music, cooking and English. Your tutor's, head of houses, pupil coaches and transition leaders will always be able to talk to you about any problems. First days will seem a bit terrifying but everyone will make you feel welcome.

We have tutor in the mornings and then a hundred minutes of lessons before break; then afterwards we have another hundred minutes of lessons. After that it's lunch; once that is over we have another hundred minutes of lessons before the end of the day. We want to make everyone feel comfortable coming to school. There is also a selection of clubs to join, like netball, rugby, hockey, volleyball and more. I play netball and also take private piano lessons as the school also offers music lessons to students (see Mr Robilliard for details). Each of the four houses has their own head of house, pupil coach and tutors. If you are in Endeavour (my house/best house) then you will have Mrs Richards, who teaches English. If you are in Discovery then you will have Mrs Miller-Marshall, who teaches PE. If you are in Endurance then your head will be Miss Holleran, who teaches science; and if you are in Resolution your head will be Mr Bolton, who teaches PE as well. They are all really nice people. We hope when you come you feel welcomed by us. Remember everyone is there for all of you and we are really looking forward to meeting you.

Best Wishes

Welcome to GTS

Lucy Beer [EBCVF](#)

Hi my name is Evie and I'm proud to be a transition leader to be able to help you.

In school I like Maths and out of school I like horse riding.

At break time you can buy a cooked snack like chicken wraps or burgers as well as other things.

When I went to GTS I felt like people would laugh at me because I have dyslexia and I can't do things like they can. But on the first two days the transition leaders like me will show you around.

Don't be afraid to ask for help, you will be ok.

I hope to see you in school soon.

Evie Holloway [EbFSF](#)

Hi.

I'm Freya and I am one of the transition leaders. When I first came to GTS I felt very nervous and a little bit excited.

The first day was really cool because we got to meet the transition leaders and then our tutor groups. After the first day, I didn't feel nervous at all and from then I have gotten used to the teachers and the people in my class.

I am very sporty and I love PE. Outside of school I do many running competitions and some for school. I do swimming and triathlon too.

I was quite a shy person before, but now that I have started GTS I have grown in confidence in and out of school. Because I was shy, I was worried that I wouldn't be able to make friends easily but since the start of the year, I have made so many not just in my year group.

Freya Woodhead [EbKLP](#)

Endeavour House

# GTS Transition Leaders



Hello year 6s.

In this letter, I am going to tell you a little about what it was like for me starting secondary. And some things that you might want to know. I came from a school where there was only one other person going with me. If you are in a position similar to that, and are worried about not knowing anyone, you don't need to worry. The teachers will be able to help you with any problems that you might be having and you will settle in really quickly. If you are lost on a way to a lesson, then you can ask the other students.

The school day is based around three one hundred-minute lessons (although sometimes you might have some fifty minute lessons). There is around twenty minutes of tutor time, 8:50-9:10. Break time is 10:50 and lasts for fifteen minutes. Lunch is at 12:45 and lasts for 45 minutes. There are a wide range of extra-curricular activities for you to take part in. They happen at lunch and break. I go to chess club on Monday at lunch break and to gymnastics club on Thursday after school.

My favourite thing about school is the atmosphere in each house. I am in **resolution** and I love being in that house. But whatever house you are in, I am sure that the staff in that house will help you with any problems. There are competitions between houses and even in the separate houses. The atmosphere in the school is warm and welcoming. I know you can't go on transition as normal, but I hope that my letter has given you the information you need.

Chloe Buckingham **RpEH**

Hello!

My name is Rowan, and I am a year 7 transition leader this year. It is a very exciting role, and I am looking forward to getting to meet you all.

When I started GTS, I was very nervous, but last year's transition leaders helped me, and I am hoping to do the same for you. The teachers, as well as the pupils, are extremely nice, and will help you with any troubles or questions that you may have.

The GTS day is split into six fifty-minute lessons, with break in between period two and three, and lunch between period four and five. There are lots of experiences at GTS, so it is really a place where you fit in, no matter what your hobbies or troubles are. For example, my hobbies are chess and football, and there is a football team, and even a chess club that takes place at Monday lunchtimes.

I cannot wait to meet you all after lockdown is over. In these strange times, things can seem worse than they are. If you have any questions or troubles, please email me at [Seldon-GreenR@gts.devon.sch.uk](mailto:Seldon-GreenR@gts.devon.sch.uk).

Thanks

Rowan Seldon-Green **RpEH**

Hi,

My name is Maddie and I am in Year 7. I know you are all probably disappointed at the fact that you are not able to have the same transition experience as the years before, but don't worry, GTS is not scary at all! I have made some really good friends in my time here and all of them came from different schools to me.

I found joining lunchtime and after-school clubs really helpful in making new friends that were also interested in the same things as me.

At first you will think that GTS is really BIG but after a week or so, you will feel more confident at finding your way around. If you are struggling, everyone is really helpful and someone will always be on hand to show you where to go.

Maddie Fuller **RpADW**

Resolution House

# GTS Transition Leaders



Hello year 6! My name is Ben May and I am a year 7 transition leader.

When I first came to GTS, I was very worried as I came from a small village school. I especially found transition hard, but all the staff and transition leaders were very encouraging, and I soon settled in. The school seemed enormous and I was worried I would get lost but all the teachers were really helpful and kind and showed me the way around the school.

The Lessons at GTS are really good and help you make new friends really quickly as you're with the same group for all of your lessons and get to know them. Also, you should really look forward to Thursday afternoons as there is house time and E&I (enrichment and intervention). This is where you go to a club type thing and do activities like rugby, football, DT, and art.

There is also 600 minutes of GTS Foundations every two weeks. This is where you have a topic every term. This year they were cooking and DT, orienteering and Geography, and art and drama. The lessons are mostly 100 minutes or sometimes 50 minutes.

Overall, you should be very excited to come to GTS as there are so many new opportunities for you to take and enjoy.

Stay safe,

Ben May [RpCTS](#)

Resolution House

Hi,

My name is Carmel when I started GTS I was nervous and really scared but after the first day I loved it.

My favourite sport is netball I always enjoy the clubs. I go to a lot of clubs in and out of school.

Carmel Thomas [RpGTC](#)