



**NORTH LIVERPOOL
ACADEMY**

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Moving Up to Year 7

STUDENTS' GUIDE



Congratulations on reaching the next stage of your education!

Your first day

Your first day at North Liverpool Academy is the first day of an exciting new adventure for you.

It is an important day as you will get a chance to have a good look around your new school, meet new friends who will be with you on your high school journey and meet all your new teachers.

We know you may feel nervous at first as being somewhere new can be a little scary but just remember everyone is in the same position and it won't feel strange for very long. We are sure that you will be settled in no time and we will do everything we can to help you feel a part of the NLA community.





What is moving to secondary school really like?

Get the low down from some of our current Year 7 students.

At North Liverpool Academy we keep in touch with every student throughout their whole transition, making sure everybody is happy. Who best to tell you about what it's like to start in Year 7 than some of our present Year 7 students? Have a look and read about what they thought of the school and moving up last September.

Jessica Rimmer

Hello! My name is Jessica. I started last September and was extremely nervous. The main reason was because I thought I would get lost looking for my lessons, also with me only having one best friend from primary I was scared that I wouldn't make any new friends. But I did! I made many new friends who are weird and who are really funny. The people here are one of the main reasons why this school is so enjoyable. Not only the students, but the teachers and subjects can make your school experience a blast as well. One of my absolute favourites is science, because my science teacher makes the most creative lessons possible. When you come here in September you can find me if you need any help, or ask teachers. Don't worry too much because after your first week you will be loving it and wondering why you worried! Good luck and I hope to see you all in September!



Aaron Adaji

Hi! My name is Aaron Adaji. At first when I came to this school I was absolutely petrified as I was used to being in the oldest year group and it felt really strange to know that I'd now be the youngest! Everything was quickly OK however as I have made many new friends and I'm involved in lots of extra-curricular activities, such as football and basketball. I am part of the Sky Sports group which gives us great opportunities to go to many different places and experience new things. As part of the group, I have even been to a rugby game which was amazing! My favourite subjects are Maths, English, P.E and technology because I learn a lot of new things that I know will help in the future. Also, you have the chance to go on a range of different trips that are extremely fun. I am looking forward to meeting you when you come next year. I hope you aren't too nervous – just remember I am always here to help!



Ethan Crickson

Hi, my name is Ethan Crickson. My first year at NLA has really flown! Don't be scared to start secondary school – when I walked through those big doors for the first time, I felt a little scared, but when I saw my friends I knew I wasn't alone. I was lucky as quite a few of my friends had come to the academy from my primary, so there were a few familiar faces. There were so many children so when the bell went for form, some year 7's didn't know where to go. Luckily I knew the way, but if you ever get lost don't be afraid to ask a teacher or another student – they'll be happy to show you the way. In school, my favourite lessons are PE and History. They're my best because I'm quite good at them, but I like all of my lessons. The trips we go on are awesome – I've been to PGL and with the Sky Sports group I went to Scotland, and that's just some of them!

Akaliya Sithrangan

Hey! My name is Akaliya Sithrangan. When I first came to NLA, I was quite scared and nervous because I didn't know where to go for my lessons. The building felt so much bigger than my primary! I was also quite nervous about making friends as I hadn't seen anyone here before. Now I have made so many friends and I know my way around really well. One of my favourite lessons is English. My teacher (Miss Meighen) is really nice and has a fabulous sense of humour. We recently went on a tour of The University of Liverpool to learn what it would be like to be a student there. I really enjoyed that day and hope to study at university myself one day! We are looking forward to see you, and remember – there's loads of support available if you're worried about anything.



View from Higher Up!

Year 10 students

Abbie and Nikita are currently in Year 10 at North Liverpool Academy so have been here for four years now. We had a chat to them about how they felt moving up from primary school and how they have settled in now.

Was it worrying at first moving up to secondary school?

NIKITA: It was at first because it was a huge school and you could get lost easily finding classrooms.

ABBIE: It was so very different to primary school and it took me out of my comfort zone.

Was it a big change from your last school?

NIKITA: It was a massive change because it is a great deal larger and you move classrooms when you are going to your next lesson.

ABBIE: It was a huge change because you get many different teachers for each lesson, which you are not used to.



Who do you go to when you have a problem?

NIKITA: I go to teachers and also my friends.

ABBIE: I go to my friends or a teacher I am comfortable with.

Any advice for new students?

NIKITA: Just be yourself, everyone else is in the same situation and the school will look after you.

ABBIE: Don't be scared, just think of it as the next chapter of your life.

Getting to know the place

North Liverpool Academy may seem a very large school and is certainly going to be bigger than your primary school. We know that it will be confusing for the first couple of weeks and you will probably get lost whilst getting to know your way around. Remember that everyone is here to help you and you can ask teachers and other students to point you in the right direction. Don't be frightened to ask as we've all been new here at some point!

You will be shown around the school on your first day to get to know where things are, but here are some of the main locations to remember:



**THE REFECTORY
WHERE ALL THE
STUDENTS EAT
LUNCH.**

**THE YEAR 7
BREAKOUT AREA**



**THE THEATRE
WHERE DANCE AND
PERFORMING ART
PRODUCTIONS CAN
BE SHOWN**



**THE PITCH WHERE
SOME LESSONS OF P.E
ARE TAUGHT**

THE LIBRARY



What's in store for you over the next five years?

The next few years will be some of the most exciting years of your life and along the way you will have opportunities that your parents and certainly, your grandparents could never have dreamt of.

By the time you have finished at the Academy, you will be qualified and prepared for employment or further qualifications. Five years may seem like a long time, but it flies by and you need to set your sights now on just what you want and where you want to be. We can help you get there, but you will need determination and motivation along the way. Some things may seem difficult at first, but your teachers are here to help you. Here are seven easy steps to help you on your way.





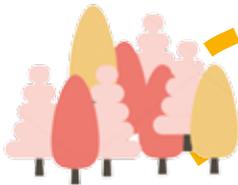
- 1. Make sure you get to school and lessons on time. Work out a route to school, get an alarm clock and develop a routine.**
- 2. Have a healthy breakfast – whether it’s at home or at school. Did you know that children who do better in exams, are those who have a good breakfast?**
- 3. Get organised. Keep your timetable handy and up to date.**
- 4. Have the right equipment – pens, pencils, a ruler, a calculator. Show you have the right attitude to learning!**
- 5. Try to do your homework the day it is set – the subject will be fresh in your head and you won’t panic the day it’s due in.**
- 6. If you don’t understand something, then ask the teacher to explain it. There is no point pretending you get something when you don’t.**
- 7. Give everything a go. Don’t decide you’re no good at a subject before you’ve tried it – you might surprise yourself.**

Picking a Path to Your F

In secondary school, along with following the National Curriculum, you will also learn and develop numerous skills which will come in useful in later life. This map outlines the types of things you will learn and develop in every year, so that by the end, you will be fully prepared to go onto your next step whether that be sixth form, college or employment and training.

Year 7

Soft Skills – employers are looking for people who are team workers, who can solve problems and have good communication skills. The world of work you enter will be very different and you will need to be flexible and learn new skills as jobs and technology change. Teams have to work to deadlines and school prepares you for this as you will have to balance your school work and after school fun activities.



Year 8

At the end of this year you'll choose the subjects you want to keep doing, and those which you don't. It is important to research careers and find out if you need any specific qualifications to follow the career path you want. If you don't know what you want to do, it would be a good idea to book a careers' interview so you can get some more information.



Year 9

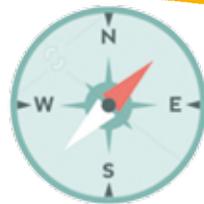
You'll carry on with your chosen subjects, but in a bit more detail. It's important you are using your school email and you must start logging all your enrichment activities so you can start to build up a record to write onto a CV (Curriculum Vitae – which is a record of all the things you have achieved in your life). Having interests outside of school and undertaking voluntary work is excellent in terms of building any application for college or employment. It's not all about the qualifications; it's also about how reliable, determined and enthusiastic you are in all sorts of ways.



Year 10

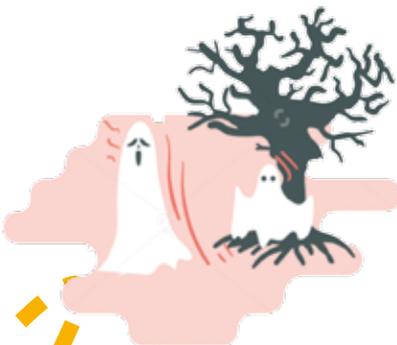
Eek! It's going fast and this year we need to start planning which pathway is most suitable. You will be interviewed by your form tutor and following this interview you will be directed to an Apprenticeship Workshop, Career Connect or the Sixth Form Team. Don't worry if you want to speak to all three, you can have as much support as you need. We have a Careers' Area in the Sixth Form Centre and you can book an appointment through your form tutor.

Future Career



Year 11

You will have decided one or two pathways, for example you may have completed an application to Sixth Form and be registered with the National Apprenticeship Service. However you can change your mind on exam results' day or shortly after. You will know what grades you need for your next steps and staying on target and working hard is very important.



Year 12

At Sixth Form or college you will have to decide, 'Do I want to go to university or apply for a higher apprenticeship?' To achieve this you must continue to build on your CV and also write a personal statement. You must complete volunteer work to develop your CV and aim to undertake activities that help you stand out in a highly competitive market. Managing a healthy work life balance is important as level 3 qualifications are challenging.

Year 13

Moving on – What's the plan?

Which university or company are you going to apply to? Different university courses have different deadlines, for example medicine is October. Some applications open in the spring term so you must be prepared as you cannot miss the deadlines.

Have you planned a gap year, so you can make the most of it? Notgoingtouni.com is a useful website to plan a gap year. Take the opportunity to complete volunteer work as this may be highly beneficial for your career in the long term.



University, Apprenticeships or Employment

A View from the Top

Although Year 11 seems a way off at the moment, it is important to see how our students have found their experience of North Liverpool Academy so you can start to see how our students progress.

Amy Fallon is in Year 12 at North Liverpool Academy and is studying English Literature, Psychology and Biology. She has applied to the University Liverpool to study Criminology and Psychology.

Ben Lawler is in Year 12 and studies Biology, Chemistry and Computer Science. He wants to go to UCLAN to study Forensic Science and Chemical Analysis.



How did you feel when you moved from primary to secondary school?

AMY: When moving from primary to secondary school I felt really nervous and anxious but also excited.

BEN: At first, I was really excited for the big change but when I got here I was overwhelmed by how big the school and community was. This was a good shock.

What did you enjoy most?

AMY: In year 7, I really enjoyed playing dodgeball in PE. My favourite subjects were science and psychology.

BEN: I really enjoyed the science classes. My favourite part was doing a new practical every week.

What is your career goal?

AMY: I hope to study criminology and psychology at university which will help me further my career in the police, training the dogs. This is my career goal because my favourite subject was psychology and my teacher really helped me get the best grade possible.

BEN: In the future, I wish to be a forensic scientist. This ties back to my science lessons when I first started because before I got here, I didn't like Science. But this school changed my opinion and gave me a career path.

We are really looking forward to you joining us in September and know that this is going to be the best Year 7 ever!

Remember, there are plenty of people who can support you and if there are any questions, ask your form tutor, your head of year, your progress leader or any member of the senior leadership team. Remember that our job is to make sure you succeed!