

What if...

I get bullied?



What if...

I forget my PE kit?



What if...

I am not in the same class as my friends?



What if...

I get lost?



What if...

I am late to school or to class?



What if...

No one likes me?



What if...

I get too much homework?



What if...

The work is too hard for me?



What if...

I am not allowed to go to the toilet?



Many students worry about this. Not only will you get to meet up with your friends at break and lunch time, by being in a class with new people helps grow your friendship group.



If you forget your PE kit, you can either ask the main office to phone home and see if it can be brought into school in time for your lesson, or you may be able to borrow a spare, however if you keep forgetting it might be a negative on your housecard - this helps build your organisational skills.



Bullying is NOT tolerated at Banovallum school. If ever you have any issues please approach your form tutor or student support. All the staff are very kind and approachable, please don't stay silent and worry.



This is a common worry - The best way to make friends is to find people with similar interests, there are many clubs at lunchtime so keep an eye out for the student bulletin each morning in form time for more information.



We all run late sometimes, parent's and carer's can always phone ahead and inform the office or if you are late for class, it might be that you are just finding your way around the school to start with and the staff will understand.



There are maps inside the student planner's, or you can head to the main office and the staff will either escort you or guide you in the right direction until you gain more confidence in finding your way around.



You will be able to use the toilets before form time, at break time and lunch time, if you do find you need to go more often, student support might be able to issue you with a discreet toilet pass.



The teacher or the teaching assistant will be able to support you in class and never worry about getting the answers wrong - it's how we all learn.



You will get homework - the best way so it doesn't build up too much is to try and complete it as you get it and also it will be fresh in your mind so it will be easier to do.



# What if...

I am worried about going on the bus?



# What if...

I don't feel very well?



# What if...

I don't have any money on my dinner account?



# What if...

I lose my bus money or bus pass?



# What if...

I need help with something personal?



# What if...

I can't afford to go on school trips?



# What if...

I can't remember what the homework is?



# What if...

It takes me too long to get changed for PE?



# What if...

I get a really strict teacher?



Parents/Carers can keep track of your balance using the parent pay login details provided by the school. If your balance gets too low a short term overdraft may be given at reception after a call home has been made to authorise this. Then parents can top up your account that evening.



If you don't feel well paracetamol can be offered at break or lunch time providing your authorisation page in your planner has been signed from your parent/carer. If you feel unwell a call home will be made if you can't continue with lessons.



The bus journey can be quite daunting to start with, on the bus you will form new friendships and soon it will become part of your daily routine and a nice time to wind down after school.



If you feel you need support parent/carers can call the school and speak to the finance office.



Student support are available to help and support with anything personal, or if you ask any member of staff you feel comfortable with to have a discreet word they will support you the best they can.



Inside your blazers are a zip pocket, this is the safest place for either bus money or your bus pass/ticket. If however you do lose it pop to main reception where they will be able to help you.



Just like all people are different, all teachers are different, some may be stricter than others, however all the teachers are kind, approachable and just expect good behaviour in their classroom.



Try and get your PE kit organised the night before and not to get too distracted when you get into the changing rooms, just go the fastest you can and all you can do is try your best.



The teachers ask for you to record the homework given in your school planner, as well as this it is uploaded onto a system called E-Praise, you can download the app on your phone or tablet and click finished when you have done it. Parents can also view E-Praise so they can encourage you to complete it.



# What if...

My phone goes off  
in class?



# What if...

My uniform is  
dirty?



# What if...

I get into a fight?



# What if...

I can't remember  
everyone's names?



# What if...

My old friends don't  
like my new  
friends?



# What if...

I don't have a  
computer at  
home?



# What if...

I am scared of the  
older students?



# What if...

I lose my planner?



# What if...

I can't remember  
where to go for my  
next lesson?



Fighting isn't tolerated at Banovallum school, CCTV cameras are based around the site and members of staff will play back the video to see what has occurred.

If someone has started to antagonise you the staff will see this and the person who started the fight will be put into isolation.

Fights are very rare and any issues can often be sorted out over a polite conversation or by speaking to student support.



Let your parent/carer know straight away when you get home from school so that they can have plenty of time to wash out any marks or stains.

Remember in Food and RMT to wear an apron to protect your clothing



The school's mobile phone policy is:  
You can have a mobile phone but during school hours it must be turned off and kept inside your school bag. If you do have it on and out, it will get confiscated and you will collect it at the end of the day.



If you struggle to either access the internet or don't have a computer, the library is open before and after school, break and lunch time, here you can use the computers and also the printer/scanner.



You will find that your friendship groups will change - not to start with as everyone keeps in their comfort zone - but slowly as you have lessons with others you will find people you like and are drawn to, it might be your old friends like them as you all have similar interests or it might be you drift slowly but still keep friends



The staff all have name badges, and within a week or two you will know everyone in your class, then they will introduce you to their friends at break and it continues, slowly you will get to know more names.



You will have a timetable on you, as well as it written out in your planner in case you lose it, also you mainly move round as a class so you can ask a friend where to go and move as a group, or if you get really lost, head to main reception and someone will guide you.



If you lose your planner in school, it will get given back to your form tutor for the following morning or you can retrace your steps and you are sure to find it - this goes for lost PE kits and coats too!



The older students can appear very intimidating - however most of them are lovely and will help you if you need to ask them anything. Don't be scared of the hall or canteen or passing them in the corridor, they have all been new to the school at some point and understand how you are feeling.



# What if...

I lose my locker  
key?



# What if...

I forget my  
computer log in or  
password?



# What if...

I get cyber  
bullied?



# What if...

I forgot to get my  
parents to sign my  
planner?



# What if...

I feel different  
because I have  
free school meals?



# What if...

I feel anxious?



# What if...

I am nervous to  
answer in class?



As you start secondary school you're more than likely to get a mobile phone to support you in your transition. Take advice from your parents about social media and their rules, if you are allowed - be careful of friends that you add - wait until you know who you can trust.

If you do get bullied through your mobile phone save the evidence, show your parents and inform the school.



Raise your hand and inform the teacher, they will ask the ICT dept for you.



There is a master key that staff can use in an emergency - if you need a new one there will be a £5 charge, speak to the office if you do lose it.



Share your anxiety with a member of staff who can offer you support and strategies.



The money is put on your school account daily so you will use the canteen and pay for the meals like everyone else - just ask your parents to fill out the free school meal form to see if you are eligible.



Don't panic - just ask them when you get home that night.



Although the teachers like everyone to be involved in class discussions - this won't be expected right at the start of year 7 - you will slowly build your confidence up and the teachers will recognise this.

