

W E A R E V A L L E Y P A R K T R A N S I T I O N



T R A N S I T I O N P R O S P E C T U S

INTRODUCTION: MR KILNER



Hello! My name is Mr Kilner and I'm an Assistant Headteacher who oversees Transition, Rewards, our House system and our Values.

My role enables me to work closely with students in supporting them through their first couple of months and years at Valley Park School.

Offering support to both students and parents allows me the opportunity to see students meet their daily personal goals.

With over ten years in education, two Degrees, and a teaching specialism in Engineering and Design Technology, I can support students not only with their well-being, but with important life skills, ambitions and academically.

One thing I really enjoy about working at Valley Park is the aspirations and dreams of the individual students and their aptitude in making their dreams come true.

This passion is evident amongst all our years, but speaking with our current year sevens, they are constantly inspiring, insightful and always strive for their best.

It is my hope that by sharing this Prospectus with you that you get a first-hand glimpse into being part of the Valley Park community.

Mr Kilner

TIMELINE

- **2 MARCH 2026** • **National Offer Day**
KCC allocation of school places. **Welcome letter** from our Headteacher which includes admission forms and an invite to our welcome event.
- **10 MARCH 2026** • **Year 6 Welcome Evening**
- **APRIL - JULY 2026** • **Primary School visits**
- **29 & 30 APRIL 2026** • **One to One Meetings**
- **JUNE 2026** • **Year 5 Workshops**
- **30 JUNE & 1 JULY 2026** • **Soft Transition Days**
This is run by our inclusion team, and is by invitation only.
- **2 JULY 2026** • **Year 6 Transition Day**
- **1 SEPTEMBER 2026** • **First Day for Year 7 & 12**
- **2 SEPTEMBER 2026** • **All Students Return**
- **TERM 1 2026** • **Year 7 ARK Teambuilding Trip**

YEAR SEVEN YEAR REPRESENTATIVES



Hi everyone. Welcome to Valley Park! My name is Abbie, and a year ago I was in the same position as you are currently.

I knew starting secondary school was going to be a big change, but it turned out to be a fresh start with so many opportunities. I don't know about you, but my two main concerns were making friends and finding classes. If these are concerns to you, you shouldn't worry. I made lots of new friends within the first two weeks and they all had the same worry as me. As for finding classes, there are teachers and older students around the school who will always be happy to help you find your way. I was surprised at how quickly I found my way around.

To help settle you in, there are really good transition days. I felt nervous about this at first, but it was also really exciting. On this event, I got to know my form, Futures lead, and year team in person and we also did competitions between the houses: Leeds (my house), Canterbury, Rochester and Deal. This really helped because I then had an idea of what that part of secondary school would be like. I think you will enjoy them as they are lots of fun and a good way to get used to the school and the people within.

I can't believe I have been at here for seven months already. I've done so many new things since I started. I love pretty much everything about Valley Park: the art, music, creativity, all of it! Some of the things I have enjoyed the most are trips and VP+ clubs. Trips because you can go on them to learn, they're fun and it's another way to get to know more people. I've been on three school trips so far - an ARK trip to *Go Ape*, a theatre trip to see *& Juliet*, and a science trip to a space observatory.

FUN FACT: you can earn positive points to go on more trips - that's how I went to see *& Juliet*!

I also enjoy VP+ because there's so much to choose from: Gaming, Dance, Sport, Band - and that's only a few of the many different clubs we have.

If there is anything you are worrying about when you join or any questions about the school then the staff are really helpful; their superpower is helping people.

I hope this has been useful. Thank You!

Abbie

YEAR SEVEN YEAR REPRESENTATIVES



Hey everyone! My name's Taran, and I'm in Year 7 at Valley Park. I just wanted to share a bit about my experience starting at this new school.

When I first joined Valley Park, I was a bit nervous. One thing that really helped me to settle in was the ARK trip that I hope you will get to experience. We went to *Go Ape* and did lots of team-building activities with people we'd only just met, to solve problems.

Everything felt so different: the classrooms, the teachers, and even the lunchroom! I remember walking in on my first day, feeling like a tiny fish in a big ocean. I didn't know anyone, and I was worried about fitting in. But I knew I had to give it a shot.

As the weeks went by, I started to adapt. I made new friends, joined a few clubs, and even got to know my teachers better. I realized that everyone here was really welcoming, and it didn't take long for me to feel at home. Now, I look forward to coming to school every day, and I've found my favorite subjects and activities that I enjoy.

So, if you're feeling nervous about starting at Valley Park, just remember that it's totally normal! Give yourself some time, be open to new experiences. Like the different clubs Valley Park has to offer to there students like clubs like football club, having the chance to represent Valley park in match against other schools. There is also plenty other clubs like coding, eco clubs, shack-spear society.

Don't hesitate to reach out to our year team as we have lots of support in the school such as place to be that is our counselling service. You'll find your place here before you know it. Thanks for listening, and I can't wait to see you all in Year 7!

Taran

ADVICE: FROM STUDENTS TO PARENTS



Iyla

"Just always support your children as it's a very hard time for lots of people going into a larger school so having your parent/carer support you makes it so much more comforting."



Indie

"I know that you will be worried if your child will fit in, but you don't have to because Valley Park has the kindest of teachers and students."



Elliot

"When your child is starting their new journey through life, try and support them as much as you can, but when doing that respect their boundaries. Always help them and talk to them about their day, and overall be kind and caring."



Evie

"If you are worried about your child at all, the school will always do the best they can to help you and your child."

ADVICE: FROM STUDENTS TO STUDENTS



Ruby

"Always try your best even if you don't feel like it. At first I was nervous and scared, but you get used to it. Along your journey you make new friends and hopefully you will stay with them the whole school journey."



Alexa

"You will have such a great time at Valley Park, but if you have worries tell your Head of Year and they will sort your problem out. Remember to always tell someone if something happens."



Elizabeth

"Making new friends isn't easy, but there are many ways to slowly form friendships by doing usual things like helping someone with their work if they look stuck, inviting someone on your table at lunch if you see them alone, and even joining a VP+ Club."



Riley

"This is a really cool and kind school where you will make loads of friends and have loads of exciting adventures."

WHAT WE ENJOY ABOUT SCHOOL



Iyla

"How lovely all the teachers are. If you need anything they are always there for you."



Ruby

"My surroundings have really helped me make so many friends. My friends have really helped me when I've needed them too, and my classes with everyone has impacted on my confidence in learning."



Ffion

"I liked that we did fun things at the start of the year to make us feel welcome."



Owen

"All the new people that I've made friends with."



Indie

"They didn't rush us to learn anything or how to get from one place to another in the school. They let us take our time to get used to the big school it is."



Lexi

"My friends."



Lola

"With the transition days, I found it easier when I joined because I knew my way around a little bit more."



Layla

"All the teachers were ready to help me, and still are."



Juno

"The nice teachers and nice environment."



Tai

"I have the best reading buddy ever!"



Elliot

"My parents really helped and I stayed in touch with my primary school friends."



Kaleb

"Friends."



Alexa

"I enjoy dance lessons the most. That's what helped me settle into this school."

WHAT WE ENJOY ABOUT SCHOOL



Olly

"The timetable because it feels so fast."



Violet

"The teachers have been nice."



Elizabeth

"They give you settling in days where you do many different exercises to get to know everyone."



Sapphire

"Having the transition day and seeing all the teachers with smiles on their faces."



Emilie

"Making friends."



Riley

"Food students and workers are my favourite, and the classes of course."



Sahar

"They make you feel very independent and work hard to achieve many things and teachers help throughout your time here."



Evie

"The transition days were crucial for me as they helped me to settle in and find some friends."



Jemima

"The engaging teachers."



Gabriella

"Teachers helping me adapt."



Freya

"The teachers were very helpful, kind and supportive."

ADVICE FOR PARENTS

"A child starting secondary school can be an anxious time, for both child and adult. It's important to remember, it is also an exciting time, that you will both look back on."

"Be open and honest with the teachers always. Never be afraid to make any enquires regarding your child and school life."

"The Edulink system supports you by being able to keep an eye on your child throughout the day. It logs positives as well as it being a great tool to communicate with their teachers."

"It can be scary, specially going from the oldest at primary school to the youngest at secondary school. But my daughter is thriving! She very shy but loves the school. Lovely and helpful staff."

"Try not to worry, they/you will be just fine!"

"If you have any questions make sure you contact the transition team at the school or once they've arrived the year team. They will respond, but if you don't contact them, they can't help, don't be worried, there is never any judgement."



WHAT TO DO IF...

Sometimes all the information you are receiving can become overwhelming. Should you have any questions or need support in finding an answer, here's what you should do:

Visit our **School Transition** website.

You will find information about upcoming events, term dates, the school day, information around uniform and much more.

Mr Kilner will be sending you parent Pamphlets each term with various pieces of information as well, these will be added here once he sent them directly to you, just in case you missed an email.

If you still need any support then please do not hesitate to call the school, or:

email manager@valleypark.viat.org.uk.

Your email will be passed onto the transition team who will get in touch with you as soon as they can.



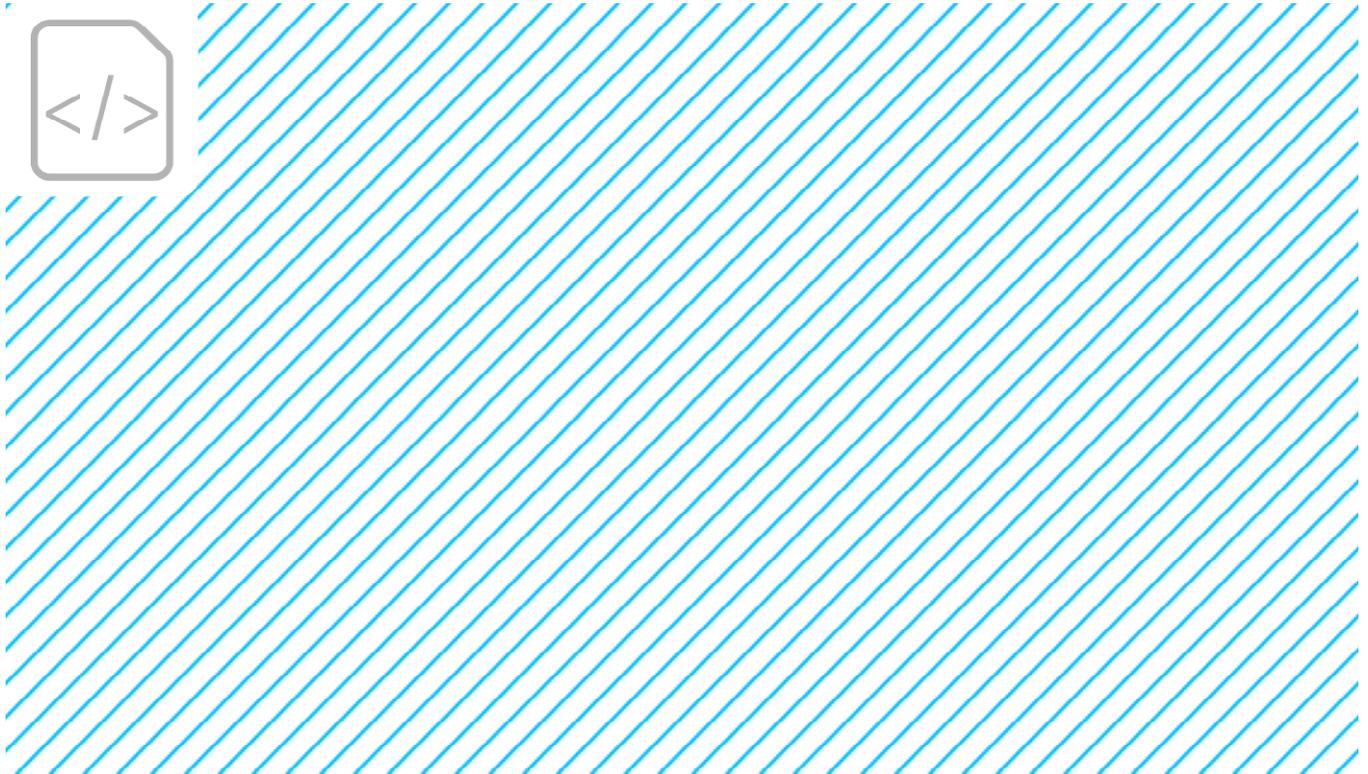
USEFUL LINKS



WE ARE VALLEY PARK



THE FUTURES PROGRAMME



W E A R E V A L L E Y P A R K T R A N S I T I O N

