

# Questions and Answers

I asked our wonderful Year 7's to think back to what it felt like to be a Year 6 . I asked them to think about what questions that had before they came to join us at The College. I was sneaky and asked them to answer them too. Now they have the answers to things that they didn't know only a few months ago.

Here my awesome Cherubs share with you some of the things they think are important to know;

**Erika**

**Are the teachers nice?**

**YES!** All the teachers are really nice. They all have different personalities and different ways of teaching. Everyone knows each other too, it's a lovely community! The teachers are very funny, kind and caring!

**Is the food tasty?**

College food is so nice. The canteen sell food at break and lunch time so you don't go hungry. You can also eat inside and outside!

**How do you know which lessons you have next?**

Everyone has their own personal timetable. It shows you all the lessons and the days of the week. There are 2 weeks with different lessons on different days. There is also a copy of the timetable for the whole school in the 'Corridor of Offices'.

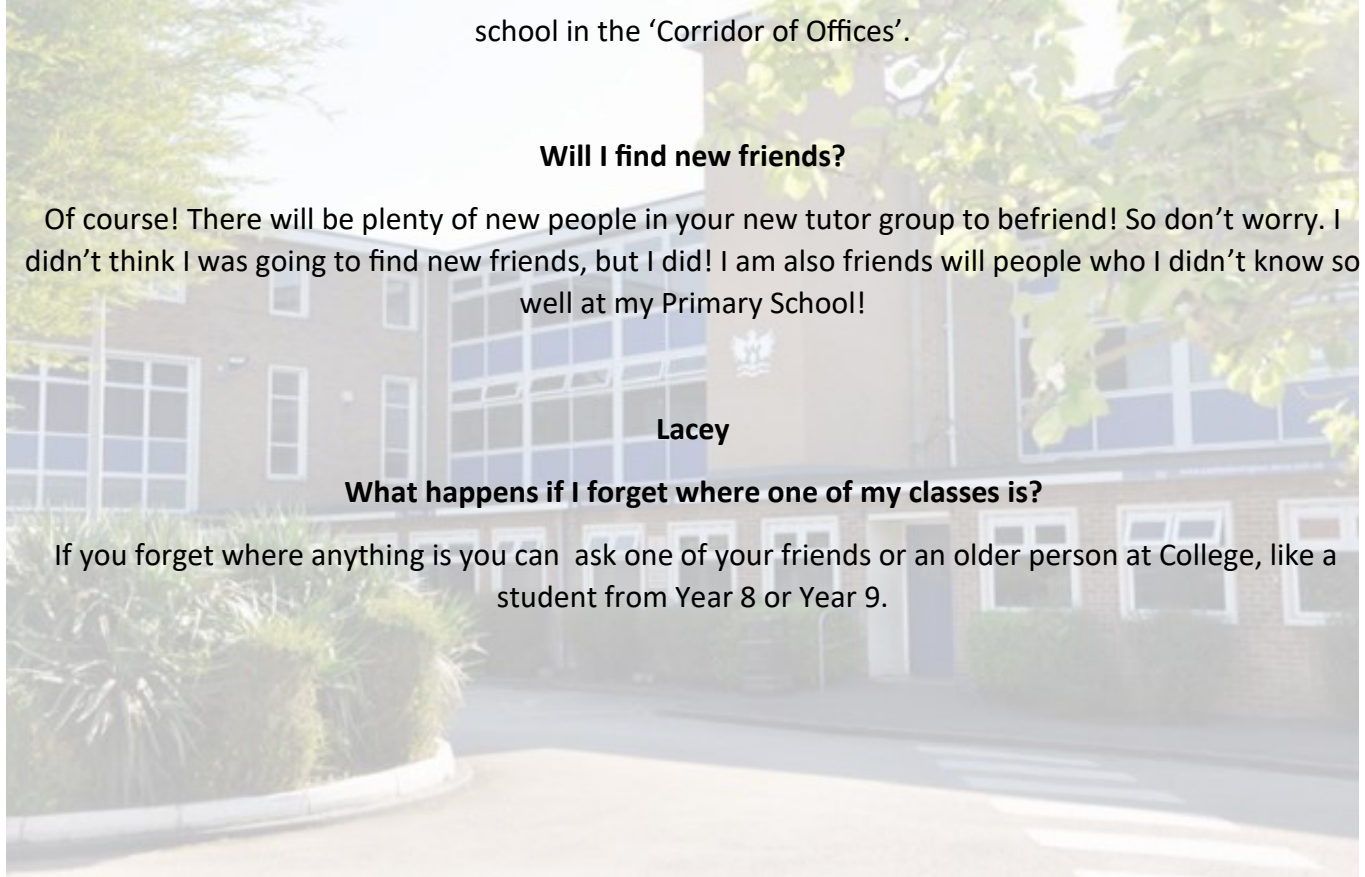
**Will I find new friends?**

Of course! There will be plenty of new people in your new tutor group to befriend! So don't worry. I didn't think I was going to find new friends, but I did! I am also friends with people who I didn't know so well at my Primary School!

**Lacey**

**What happens if I forget where one of my classes is?**

If you forget where anything is you can ask one of your friends or an older person at College, like a student from Year 8 or Year 9.



**Sophie**

**Am I likely to get lost?**

No. It is quite easy to find your way around after the first couple of days. Just make sure you know which lessons you have that day. And don't worry if you do get lost, just ask someone the way.

**Are the teachers really strict?**

No. All of the teachers are so nice and lovely, but like all teachers they have a level of discipline. Just make sure you are always on your best behaviour and you will be absolutely fine.

**Is there loads of homework?**

Not loads, but more than primary. You have quite a lot, but are not overwhelmed by it. You should normally expect about two or three pieces a day, but it is never to hand in the next day.

**Is there lots of bullying?**

No. But if there are things that are worrying you, or you feel like this is happening to you, the teachers are fantastic with sorting it out, just make sure to speak to them if you have any concerns.

**Is it hard to make new friends?**

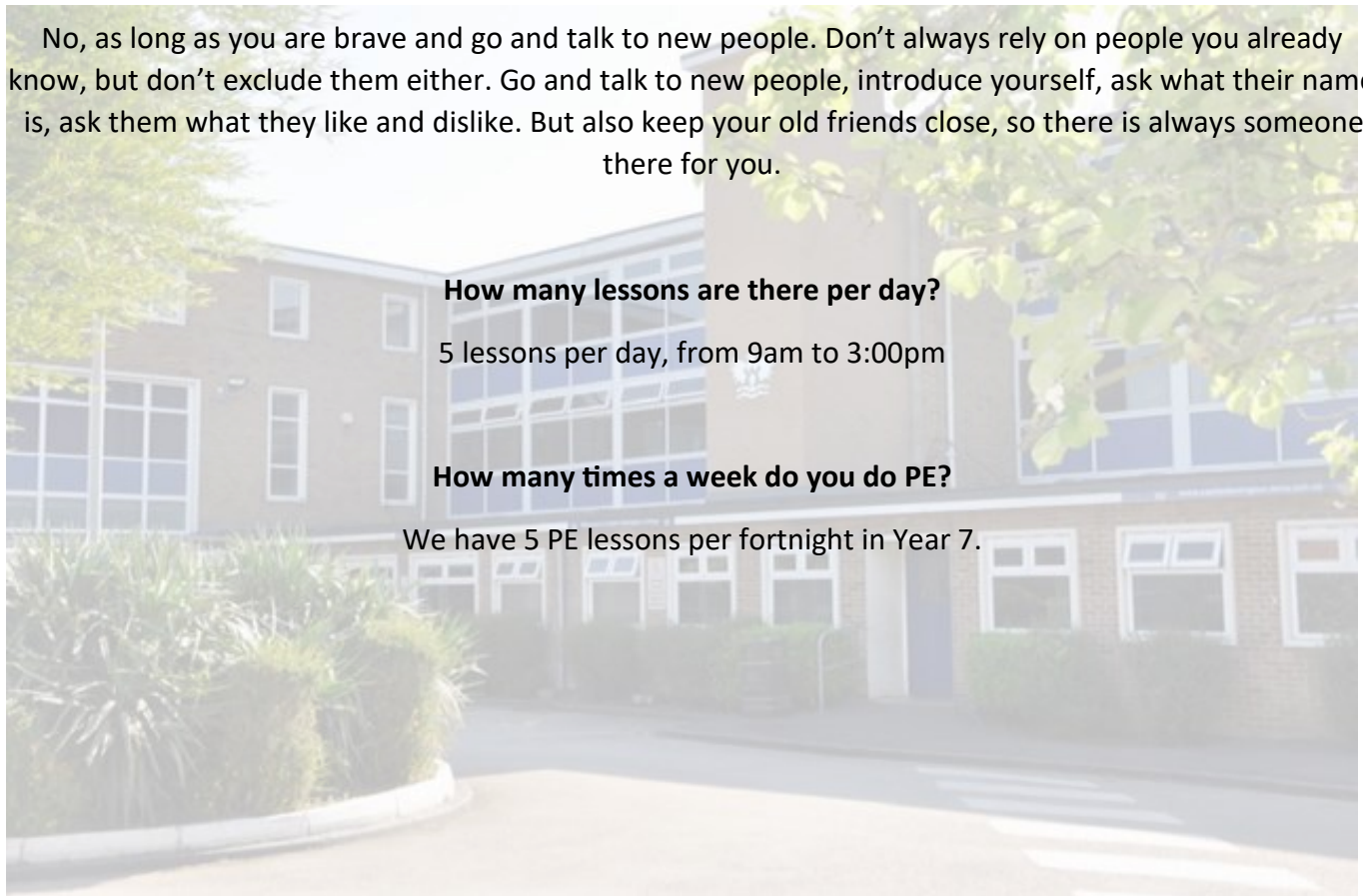
No, as long as you are brave and go and talk to new people. Don't always rely on people you already know, but don't exclude them either. Go and talk to new people, introduce yourself, ask what their name is, ask them what they like and dislike. But also keep your old friends close, so there is always someone there for you.

**How many lessons are there per day?**

5 lessons per day, from 9am to 3:00pm

**How many times a week do you do PE?**

We have 5 PE lessons per fortnight in Year 7.



### **Which gate do you go in?**

It depends, you could go in through the Science gates or you could go in through the bigger gates on the left hand side of the building and walk outside to either hallway doors or English doors. There is always an adult on duty in case you are not sure.

### **Can you go on the field?**

We can use the field when it is nice weather, so usually April to October.

**Dan**

### **What is the food range like ?**

The food range is interesting. We have panini's, jacket potatoes, lasagne, pie and mash, pasta pots and sandwiches, The menu is really broad.

### **What musical instruments can you play?**

You can learn lots of new exciting instruments at the College. Some people have lessons with Brad, Mrs Canny or Bruce and lots of other peripatetic teachers. You can play things like; trombone, flute, guitar, drums, keyboard, piano and the trumpet.

### **Do you have DT lessons ?**

Yes. There are core design lessons and practical design lessons, we learn so much. We do, Art, Design , Graphics, Food and Nutrition and Programming.

### **Are there lots of different Heads of Year?**

There are 5 Heads of Year; Our Head of Year will be Mrs Danes and you will get a new Head of Year in Year 8 who will stay with you until you are in Year 11.

**Poppy**

### **Do you go to all of your lessons with your tutor group?**

All lessons except for Maths are with your tutor group in Year 7.

### **Can I move tutors groups?**

You can if you really need to but this has to be discussed with your parents and Head of Year. Once you move you should stay where you are.



## **Maddie**

### **Will we get or need a map so we don't get lost?**

You won't need a map as, compared to other schools, Castle Donington College is quite easy to navigate around and there will be lots of students that you can ask if you don't know where to go.

### **What are Commendations and Phoenix awards?**

Commendations are awarded when you do great work .

Phoenix Awards are given out when you do something good for someone else, or take part in a College presentation. It's a reward for having a positive impact on College life.

Each week, Mrs Danes counts up the Commendations and the tutor group with the highest amount gets a certificate. We also give out certificates and afternoon tea to students who have done well this year. It's really fun!

Each term, the tutor group with the most Phoenix Awards gets Golden Time, they also get a cash reward to spend with their group too. It's brilliant.

### **What will happen if I'm late?**

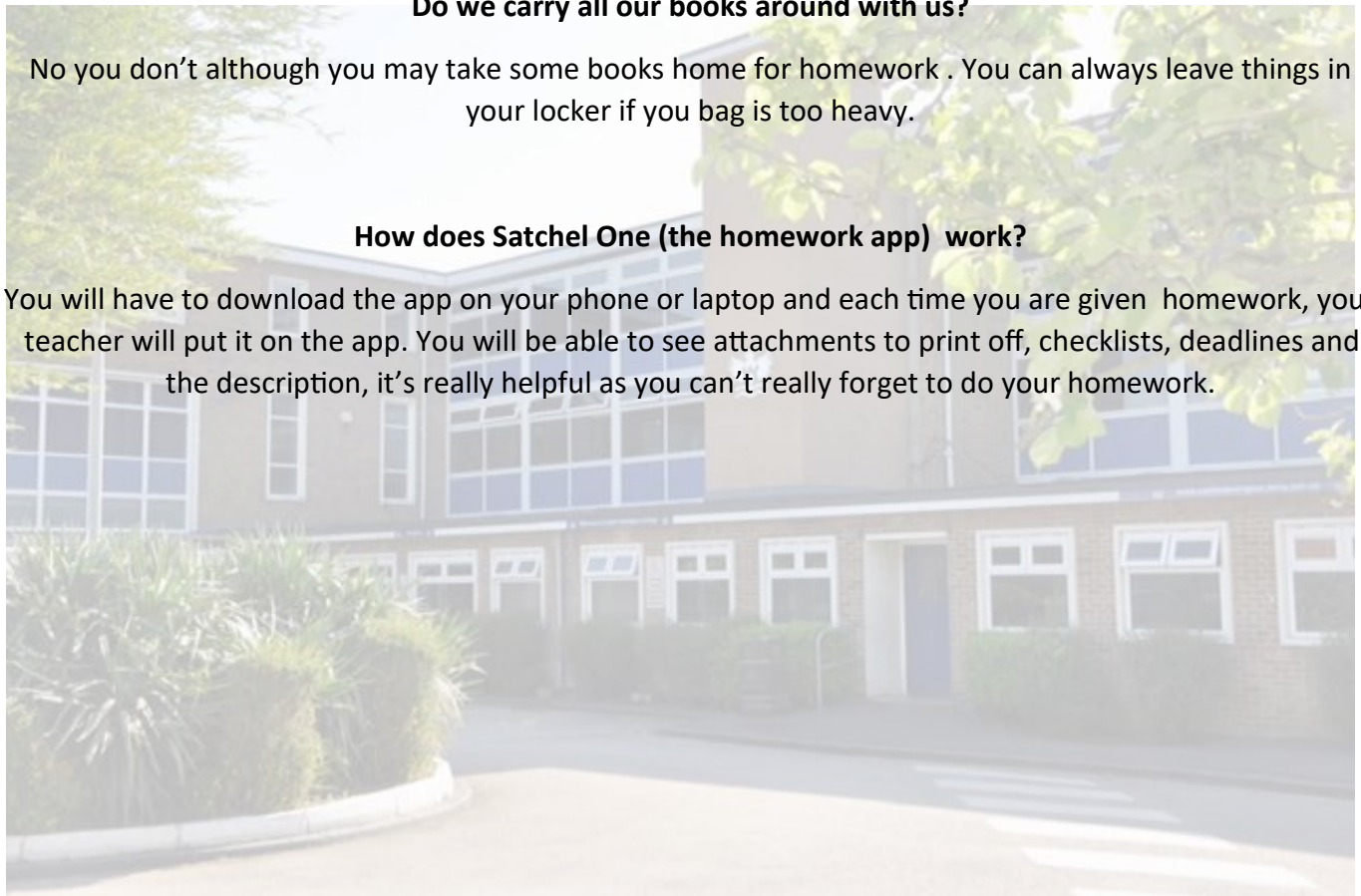
This may be worrying but for the first few weeks the teachers will be understanding as you find your way around. Just don't make a habit of it otherwise you will be in trouble.

### **Do we carry all our books around with us?**

No you don't although you may take some books home for homework . You can always leave things in your locker if your bag is too heavy.

### **How does Satchel One (the homework app) work?**

You will have to download the app on your phone or laptop and each time you are given homework, your teacher will put it on the app. You will be able to see attachments to print off, checklists, deadlines and the description, it's really helpful as you can't really forget to do your homework.



**Jakub K**

**What happens if I forget my books?**

If this is not a regular thing, then your teacher will ask you to complete your work on paper and stick it into your book next time. Most books are kept by the teachers so you don't need to worry.

**Will I be able to play football?**

Yes, there are a lot of courts to play football on, plus there is lots of space for other sports too, like basketball and rugby.

**Matilda**

**What time does the bus come?**

It depends on the bus and the village you live in, but it is usually between 8:00-8:20am. The buses leave the College at 3.10pm, which gives you 10 minutes to get your things and get out to the bus area.

**What do you do on your first day?**

For the first lesson you will be with your tutor and new tutor group. You will be finding out your timetable and getting to know each other, there might be an assembly too. After this you will go to lesson 2 and the rest of your lessons that day.

**What time is break and lunch?**

Break is 11:00-11:15 Lunch is 13:15-14:00

**What are the most important things to take to school on your first day?**

1. Pencil case with supplies; Pens, pencils, ruler, rubber and crayons
2. Water bottle
3. Notebook
4. Bus pass
5. Lunch or make sure you have money on your account to pay for lunch.
6. PE Kit

**Holly**

**I am worried about being around lots of older children, will they talk to me or make fun of me?**

No they won't make fun of you, they might talk to you, but that is because they are nice and want to help you.

**Will I make new friends?**

I came here and I didn't know anyone, I have made lots of new friends, so yes, you will.

**Archie**

**Will I be in the same tutor group as all of my friends?**

I am in the same tutor group as some of my friends from primary school but not all. I have made new friends too.

**Jessica**

**What does the uniform look like?**

You will see on the website that it is a white t-shirt, a blue sweatshirt and black trousers or skirt. The sweatshirt and t-shirt have the College logo on.

**When will I find out what tutor group I am in?**

We usually find out on Induction Day. But Mrs Danes will let you know as soon as possible.

**Jess**

**Do you change tutor groups every year?**

No, you stay in the same tutor group from Year 7 to Year 11 and with the same tutor. You will be given a tutor group name such as 7JMG and each year the number changes but your name stays the same. Unless your tutor changes.

**Will you have assemblies with older children?**

Yes you have one assembly a week with the whole of your Key Stage.  
The other assemblies are just with your year group.

**Which years are in each Key Stage?**

Key Stage 3 is Years 7,8 and 9

Key Stage 4 is Years 10 and 11

**We hope these questions and answers have helped you.**

**If you have further questions please ask your adult to email [postroom@cdcollege.uk](mailto:postroom@cdcollege.uk) and we will get back to you.**