

So just remember five points:

1. Always take care

2. Be sensible

3. Use your common sense

4. Keep doing the
thinking thing

(and this is very important)

5. Be happy and enjoy
being and learning at
your new school.

So you are soon going to a new school
A SECONDARY SCHOOL



That is brilliant, or is it? Suddenly you will be expected to grow up a bit, get more sensible and learn stuff quickly!

You may not be able to walk to school - it may be far too far away. On the other hand you may have to start walking or cycling to school and not get a lift in the car anymore.

Maybe you will have to catch a bus or even a train, and guess what - on top of that you might have to carry loads of books and stuff all the time and have to remember where all the classrooms are for every lesson.

But it is not all bad, getting used to a new way of doing things and meeting new people can be loads of fun-you just need to do more thinking about things, that's all.





let's do some thinking!

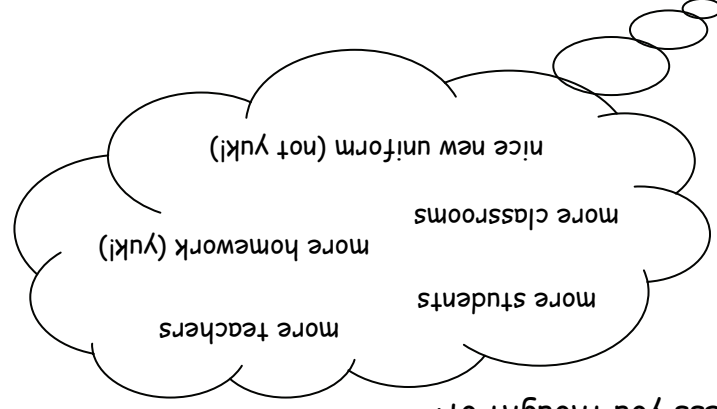
What is the name of your new School?

What differences do you **think** you will find at this new school?

See if you can name three things that will be different when you start.

1.
2.
3.

I guess you thought of:



Did you **think** of anything different to these?

Well.....Now you have read and worked through this

booklet you must have a better idea about your new school and how you are going to travel to it.

It might feel a little scary at the moment. Your teacher has probably told you already that it is OK to feel a little scary. However, doing the positive and negative exercise, feeling scary might be a little negative, but at least you now know what school is all about.

When you were very little, you went to a 'big new school', which might be the school you are in now. Can you remember how scary that was? You had never been left in a big school before, but very soon you had probably forgotten your fears and were so busy playing and learning with your new friends that nothing was scary any more.

Look at you now, ready to move on and join the exciting world of Secondary School. That is definitely **positive**!



The really **coolest** thing of all is something called **Freedom Pass**.

This means that for £50 per year, you will probably be able to get a **Freedom Pass** that will allow you to travel on local buses not only to and from school, but also after school, at weekends and during the holidays. So once the £50 has been paid, there will be no more bus fares to pay.

(Don't forget not to lose your pass though, this is one **positive** we don't want turning into a **negative**!)



If you speak to your school they should be able to tell you all about **Freedom Pass**, but if they can't help you go to

www.kent.gov.uk/kentfreedompass

where you and your family can find out all about it.

Put a circle around all the words that describes the school and how you **think** you will feel about it.

Brilliant

Old

Cool

Horrible

New

Exciting

Miserable

Fun

Scary

Happy

Large

Interesting

Difficult

Large

Crowded

Can you **think** of some of your own words to describe how you will feel about your new school?

.....

.....

.....

Now let's **think** about travelling to your new school.

How would you really like to travel to your new school if you could travel any way you wanted?

Did you write **bike** ? **Think**.....



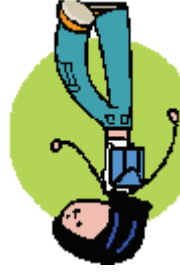
Have you done, or are you going to do your cycling course this year? **Y/N**

Do you know the route to your new school? **Y/N**

Are there any cycle paths or off road cycle tracks on your journey? **Y/N**

Do you have a roadworthy bike and safety equipment? **Y/N**

Did you write **walk** ? **Think**.....



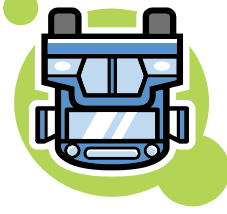
Do you know the route to your new school? **Y/N**

Are you used to walking to school? **Y/N**

Have you read the Green Cross Code? **Y/N**

Do you understand what it means? **Y/N**

Did you write **bus** ? **Think**.....



Do you ever go on the bus without an adult? **Y/N**

Is your house near a bus stop? **Y/N**

Is there a bus stop near your new school? **Y/N**

Do you know the number of the bus you will need for school? **Y/N**

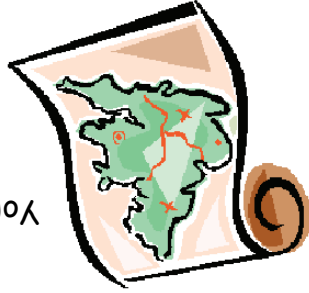
There are many other websites that will give you maps and timetables.

You could try for maps and transport:

www.google.co.uk,

www.travelinesoutheast.org.uk

www.transportdirect.info.



For trains,

www.nationalrail.co.uk

For buses,
www.stagecoachbus.com,
www.arrivabus.co.uk
(or try your local bus company)



For cycling routes try

www.sustrans.org.uk

<http://extranet7.kent.gov.uk/explorekentgis/map.aspx>



There really are loads of web places to help you plan your travel to the new school.

Why don't you practise downloading maps and timetables together in class and see how you get on?

<http://www.11-19travel.info/>

It might say:

It will also open up the school's website so you can read all about your new school.



Is there any other way you could travel to school? **Y/N**

how you **want** to travel might not be
the way you **will** travel.



let's have a look and see if we can make how you *will* travel to your new school a little easier.....

If you know how you will be getting to your new school, write it down in stages, e.g. *walk, bus, walk*; or *walk, bus, train, bus, walk*; or even *car*.

.....
.....
.....

Now start to *think* what your new journey will mean to you. Will it take longer to get there, and what things do you have to *think* about with different transport?

Let's list your thoughts on what we need to consider about travelling on different transport.
It would be good to put our thoughts into negative and positive columns under the different transport headings. When you have done that, discuss your thoughts and why you think them with the rest of your class, and add any other thoughts your classmates come up with.



One of the best ways to do that is to plan your journey. You could do that long before you actually go to your new school. As soon as you know which school you will be going to and how you are going to travel to it, you can start finding out all sorts of information.

WHERE THE SCHOOL IS

What times are the buses and trains?

WHICH IS THE BEST WAY TO WALK?

Which roads might be safer for cycling?

Who could be travelling with you

Where the buses stop near the school and near your house

... and loads more!

Bike

Negative

Now Positive

Foot

Car

Travelling to a Secondary School can be fun and exciting, as long as you behave well. Try to be sensible and remember to exercise your brain on the journey by **thinking** quite a bit about what you are doing and what you will be doing next.

By Bus

Positive

Cheaper than car
Travel with friends

Negative

Weather (cold and wet)
Bad behaviour

By Train

Positive

Travel with friends
Very quick journey

Negative

Train might be late
Might lose pass

By Bike

Positive

Get loads of exercise
Buy new safety gear

Negative

Carrying heavy bag
Lots of other traffic

Have a look through the negative column, and see if you can *think* how you could turn two items in each heading to a positive so they become not so bad.

Here's an example:

Car

Negative

Stuck in traffic

Now Positive

Time to make sure my homework is finished.

Train

Negative

Might lose my pass

Now Positive

Make sure my pass is in a holder and tied in my bag.

Now you find some negatives and turn them into positives.

Now Positive

Negative

Bus

Train

Negative

Crossing busy roads
School might be a long way

Positive

Lots of fresh air
Walking is good for you

By Foot

Negative

Not very green
Stuck in traffic jams

Positive

Warm and dry
Travel door-to-door

By Car

You should be able to find many more positives and negatives for each mode of travel, and lots of really good and serious ones too, butand here comes a groan and moan.....

however many negatives you can find, if that is the way you will need to travel to your new school, you will have to do the *think* exercise again and try to make positives out of your negatives.