

Cross The Bridge

from Year 6 to Year 7

and find yourself on a richly rewarding journey!




TheBridge
At President Kennedy School

Year 7 School at The Bridge...

We are a school with fifty years of sound experience delivering Secondary education in Coventry. We know that the transition from Primary to Secondary School is a very important phase and it is essential that our Year 7 students get the very best start possible.

Our scale at President Kennedy School allows us to commit the resources needed to each individual year group. This means that we are geared up to provide what is needed when it is needed at each phase of your child's education. We recognise that the needs of eleven year olds differ greatly to older teenagers and we have created The Bridge which provides specialist care and development tailored to this age group. Experience has shown that very careful assessment of our incoming year 7's academic strengths and weaknesses together with their emotional and social requirements generates strong relationships between staff and students early on. This ensures that we are able to offer the right amount of support and stretch for every child in our care.

Ultimately, happy children do well at school and The Bridge provides a welcoming and secure environment where children feel at home quickly and soon feel confident enough to tackle new activities. Most year 7 lessons are taught within the Bridge's newly refurbished building. This means that our specialist teachers transport themselves to the children rather than the children having to transport themselves to the teachers!

“ My time at President Kennedy has turned me into a confident young lady and I feel I can achieve anything I set my mind to ”

Tremane Ryan, Ex-pupil Joseph Cash Primary School

Year 8 and beyond

Once children have completed their first year at President Kennedy, they move up to the Year 8 College, known as The Gateway. Again, this college is geared up to meet the needs of Year 8, who by this time have found their feet, have made solid friendships and are usually feeling a little more adventurous!

Beyond Year 8, Students join mixed Year 9, 10 and 11 Colleges whose focus is a fruitful journey through our stretching GCSE curriculum and examination success. Increasingly, students sit formal examinations when they are ready (often a year earlier than many other schools) so that we are able to move them onwards and upwards to higher qualifications wherever possible. Again, pastoral care and enrichment activities are geared to the needs of our older children. At this point careers advice and work related learning is introduced by specialist staff.

After GCSE, students move up to Post 16, and by this time are starting to plan career paths and higher education. We are extremely ambitious for our students here at President Kennedy School, and our scale enables us to offer an unusually wide spectrum of AS and A level subjects. All of our Post 16 leavers who applied for university in 2010 gained places supported by specialist careers and higher education advisors.

Transition from Year 6 to Year 7

Our transition team works hard with local primary schools to ensure that children who move to President Kennedy School are thoroughly prepared well in advance. By the time children have met our staff, attended our Mini Olympics events and Year 5 Taster Days they can't wait to come here!

We run the extremely popular "Bridge Summer School" dedicated to Year 6s who already have a place at President Kennedy School next year and for Year 5s who are considering applying for a place the following year.

Parents and Carers

At every stage of our Transition Programme we go out of our way to meet and engage with prospective parents and carers. This is important to us for two reasons. Firstly, parents and carers are a vital source of information and this input helps us understand the individual needs of children early on. Secondly, parents and carers are an essential part of the process of education. We know that close relationships between parents/carers and our staff greatly enhances the success of your child through their time at President Kennedy School. Together, we are Building Brighter Futures!

Curriculum

All Year 7 students will take part in a carefully crafted curriculum that encompasses traditional academic subjects such as English and Maths taught by our specialist Faculty Teachers plus a range of cross curricular learning experiences.

The key to success is careful assessment when the children arrive at President Kennedy School which enables us identify strengths and weaknesses early. We then devise highly personalised timetables for each student based on their particular needs to make sure that every child is stretched to reach their full potential.

Children are placed in sets according to their ability in English and Maths quickly. Children who arrive below national average in key subjects such as English and Maths are often offered additional lessons in small groups which give them just the boost they need. Children who are Gifted and Talented are placed in our Accelerated Programme which ensures that they get the stretch that they need.

Extra-curricular activities

Part of school life at The Bridge is participation in a wide range of experiences to develop our pupils both academically and socially. Activities include extending academic interests, sports, the arts, community projects, and the media, preserving the environment and student leadership.

GCSE results have risen sharply. Students have a very good attitude to their learning... they flourish and consequently progress well

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Sports activities at The Bridge

- Rugby
- Cricket
- Tennis
- Netball
- Athletics
- Judo
- Basketball
- Swimming
- Trampolining



Arts activities at The Bridge

- Drama Club
- Choir
- Band
- Orchestra
- Film Club
- PK Productions (In our own studios, TV and Radio broadcasting, lighting and sound engineering, blogging and website)



Homework and learning at The Bridge

- Homework Club (supervised provision before and after school)
- Learning Ambassadors
- Maths Puzzle Club

Environmental activities at The Bridge

- Eco Club
- Bridge Allotment
- Recycling Scheme
- Outdoor Classroom

I love all the new friends I have made. I have also joined the PK Productions (TV Crew)

Chanel Bhandal, Ex Pupil, Whitmore Park School



Rules

Discipline is taken seriously at President Kennedy School. We believe that children who know what is expected of them feel secure in their environment. Discipline issues are dealt with effectively and quickly by our staff and parents/carers are contacted when the need arises.

Students are encouraged to take responsibility for their actions whilst in school and representing the school.

President Kennedy School emphasizes and rewards good behaviour by awarding points and giving praise wherever possible.

Uniform is strictly enforced in school.

Staff at the Bridge

The Bridge boasts an experienced team who are all educational professionals dedicated to the Year 7 students in their care. The Head of The Bridge, Mr Townsend, is a qualified teacher with many years' experience in school leading and developing year 7 pupils. Similarly Miss Bird, the Bridge Manager is a qualified teacher who specialises in the Pastoral Care of 11-12 year olds. Mr Townsend and Miss Bird are always on hand to answer questions and ensure the children feel secure and happy.

The team is greatly enhanced by a full time literacy specialist and numeracy teachers who assess children's ability, monitor progress and organise additional lessons which increase attainment in these important subjects.

There is also a strong team of Bridge teaching assistants who specialise in supporting year 7s. The Bridge teaching assistants get to know the children very well and support them in class, work with them in small "booster groups" and organise clubs and activities.

You can join lots of clubs, learn musical instruments, meet authors, go on trips and enter quizzes!

Gurjit Mattu, Ex Pupil, Holbrooks Primary School

Behaviour is good, characterised by warm friendly relationships between staff and students

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My time at PK has been amazing and the thing I am most proud of is that I have improved in Maths!

Tremane Ryan, ex pupil,
Joseph Cash Primary School

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