

## Messages From Peer Mentors



Coming from a primary school outside of the feeder area I was very nervous, anxious, yet also excited on my first day. I didn't know who to talk to, to trust or even who to have break times with. Everything was new to me...but I quickly made friends and believe my initial few days were a great success as I settled in well. I feel honoured to be chosen as a Peer Mentor as I enjoy helping others and supporting them. From my own experience, I will want to support new Yr 7 students when they navigate through the initial few days. I already represent the school in many ways such as during Open Evening and in a sporting capacity when I was recently the Team Captain for the Yr 9 Netball Squad.

**Charli**

Joining the Willink School is the best thing I've ever done. My aim is to help others achieve the same experience. Some of my experience includes being a Patrol Leader (now Explorer), a Young Playleader at the Holiday Camp Fantastic Kids, and I am currently a library helper at school. I look forward to greeting you all in September.

**Finlay**



I applied to be a Peer Mentor because I wanted to help people in new environments to grow and follow their dreams. I enjoy helping people to become more confident with life, exploring new ideas and opportunities. I am very understanding, patient, and I know what Year 6 and 7 students are going through as I have been there myself and had the same experience. I am a Senior Patrol Leader at Scouts meaning I am one of the oldest Patrol Leaders and I have a lot of experience with new situations and challenges. I was also a Peer Mentor in my primary school and I often helped younger student explore learning and settle in to a new school.

**Elspeth**

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I started Year 7 at Willink School with no other peers from my primary school and knowing only one other person in the entire year group. However, I quickly found friends and fitted in. Despite not knowing anyone in my tutor group, I was nominated as tutor representative, joined clubs, made a lot of new friends and represented my house in inter-house activities. Next year I will be able to help other Year 7 students, who will be in the same position as the only one from their primary, fit in. I will also be able to help any BaME students to feel like they fit in. I have done well in leadership positions as tutor rep for the last 3 years and I'm looking forward to being Peer Mentor.

**Josh**

I came to the Willink School with only two others from my primary school and that felt quite scary. The Peer Mentors were really friendly and actually helped me to make friends quicker than I thought I would (we played some fun "getting to know you" games). I really enjoyed joining the school and settled in quickly. I found my Peer Mentors extremely reassuring and supportive. It was so nice (especially because I joined from a school with only two other people) to have that instantly friendly person who you can talk to and who's only a bit older than you. I will really enjoy being a Peer Mentor which is a great opportunity to help others to have a positive and fun start in Year 7. The fact that I came to Willink School with only a small group of peers means I can empathise with those just like that. Furthermore, I have taken part in many extra curricular activities whilst at the Willink and I feel I am able to handle and fully commit to my school work and my extra curricular interests. As part of my bronze Duke of Edinburgh, I am volunteering at Mrs Blands after-school club which I really enjoy it and hope to carry on doing it in year 10. This volunteering role has helped me increase my confidence with working with younger people.

**Freya**

