

Preparing my children for transition

Before

- Read all the relevant school documents carefully or ask someone to help you go through them. You need to be informed.
- Be decisive about where you want your child to go and stick with your decision, it is important to ensure there is lots of preparation time.
- Visit the school with your child at least twice, preferably during lesson times.
- Make sure your child attends the Transition day in Year 7 once you have made your decision.
- Ask if there is a transition pack/group for your child.

During

- Be positive about the transition, do not share your anxieties with your child.
- Ensure that your child's SEN file reaches the Secondary school and someone has put your child on the SEN register (talk to the SENCO).
- Know the school and its routines, check the school timetable and calendar before they start.
- Find out if there is a meet the parent evening in September and attend it.

Always

- Support your child's organisation— what equipment do they need? Have they got the correct uniform?
- Provide a strict morning and bed time routine.
- Ensure your child gets enough sleep.
- Provide a homework routine and somewhere quiet for your child to complete it.

IN SUMMARY:

- ☺ Be proactive and decisive
- ☺ Check out the School websites
- ☺ Read SEN Policies and Local Offer documents
- ☺ Attend Open evenings or visit school
- ☺ Talk to the SENCO and ask the right questions
- ☺ Prepare your child for Transition

Year 6/7 Transition



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- Things to look out for
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- Preparing my child for transition: a guide for parents

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS OF CHILDREN WITH SEN/D

Information you might require:

List of School contacts:

www.fearnhill.herts.sch.uk (01462 621200)
www.hbs.herts.sch.uk (01462 632181)
www.hgs.herts.sch.uk (01462 621300)
www.highfield.herts.sch.uk (01462 620500)
www.kemplar.herts.uk (01462 620700)



Things to look out for on the websites:

- ◇ Information about SEN provision can be found in the 'Local Offer' section
- ◇ 'Learning Support' section
- ◇ SEN and/or Inclusion Policy
- ◇ Behaviour and Homework Policies
- ◇ School development/improvement plan (does it have an SEN/D focus?)
- ◇ Open Evening information (usually held early in the Autumn term) will be signposted on the home page.
- ◇ Contact details for the SENCO/Inclusion Manager (you may need to phone schools for these, numbers above)

Things to do:

- Look on the school website's and read the documents named above.
- Attend open evenings in September/October when your child is in Year 5 or Year 6.
- Make an appointment to see the secondary SENCO and Organise a school visit/tour the school during lesson times.
- Ask the right questions (see page 2).
- If your child has a statement make sure that the Secondary from your chosen school is invited to the Year 6 Annual Review.
- Make sure the Secondary SENCO has seen all the professional reports about your child.



Useful questions you may want to ask The Secondary school SENCO

- Is there a transition programme in place?
- How will my child be supported through the first few weeks of transition?
- How can I help my child through the transition process? (see back page)
- Do you intend to have a nurture group/is there an alternative curriculum for Year 7 vulnerable groups?
- How many teaching assistants do you have and do any of them have any specialist training?
- Is there a focus on training staff to differentiate effectively in your school?
- How is information about my child shared with staff?
- How much awareness will the teachers have of how to plan for my child's specific needs?
- How are the needs of students with similar difficulties currently met?
- Do you use IEPs? If not how do you set and review individual targets?
- How will I know what support my child is receiving?
- What could I do if I had concerns about my child's support?
- How do you monitor children with SEN/D student progress?
- What do you currently do if a child with SEN/D is under-achieving?
- How is the curriculum currently modified at KS4 to meet the needs of children with SEN/D?

