

# Plymouth Inclusive Education Transitions Team

## Transferring from Year 6 to Year 7

The transfer from Primary to Secondary school can be a stressful time in a child's life, and particularly for vulnerable children and those with special educational needs. They will have to adjust to the larger, less personal environment of the Secondary school.

Any problems need to be tackled early with the school, for example if your child feels overwhelmed with the work, does not find the work challenging enough or is having difficulty making friends. Secondary schools will have at least one member of staff who is responsible for new children coming into their school.

It can also be a difficult time for you as your child reaches a new stage in growth and approaches adulthood. Try and be positive and up beat about the change and try not to pass on any anxiety to your child.

## Common anxieties for children

Some of the most common anxieties faced by children starting Secondary school revolve around friendships, bullying, getting lost, the journey to school and forgetting or losing bus/lunch money. They may be worried about homework, finding the work too difficult, forgetting equipment and books, not getting on with the teachers or getting in to trouble. As a parent/carer you can help to ease some of these anxieties.

Learning to be organised for school does not come easily to many children. Be patient and expect to spend weeks or even months helping them to be responsible for themselves.

## How you can help

- It is important to communicate with your child's school. Make sure you know who to contact if you have any questions or concerns. Attend any meetings and parents evenings.
- Make sure that the correct uniform is ready for your child and encourage your child to pack his/her bag the night before.
- Your child will probably get quite tired, so make sure that he/she has early nights. Tiredness can have an adverse affect on concentration and behaviour.
- Check and sign your child's planner regularly and check his/her bag for letters.
- Familiarise yourself with your child's timetable, maybe post it in an accessible place in the home.
- Make sure you're aware of the school rules, expectations and behaviour policy.
- Try and make time each day to talk to your child about his/her school day. Discuss homework and if necessary encourage your child to attend the homework club. Your child will need a quiet place to study at home and will need to learn to organise his/her own time.

- Make sure that the school has information on any services involved with your child, e.g. social, physio, speech and language etc.
- Be aware of the emotional pressure of transferring to a new school and the larger environment.

### Children with Special Needs

If your child has special educational need or is vulnerable, arrange to meet the school SENCo before transfer to ask how they can help. Pass on any relevant information that might help with your child's transition to his/her new school.

The SENCo may want to see how well your child settles in to school before support strategies can be put in place.

Ask the school for an updated Individual Education Plan (IEP) if they normally have one.

### ON BEHALF OF THE STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP GROUP FOR TRANSITIONS

Plymouth Inclusive Education Transitions Team  
 Plym View Primary  
 Blandford Road,  
 Efford,  
 Plymouth, PL3 6JA.  
 Tel: 01752 777533  
 Email: [pieteam@plymouth.gov.uk](mailto:pieteam@plymouth.gov.uk)

*Get your child off to a good start!*



## Leaving Primary School and Starting Secondary School

A Year 6/7 Transition  
 Guide for  
 Parents/Carers

**Plymouth  
 Inclusive Education  
 Transitions Team**

