



SENDCO Guides - Primary/Secondary Transition

Transition

- 6.57 SEN support should include planning and preparation for the transitions between phases of education and preparation for adult life. To support transition, the school should share information with the school, college or other setting the child or young person is moving to. Schools should agree with parents and pupils the information to be shared as part of this planning process.

What does best practice look like?

Many children, with or without SEND, will thrive on the excitement of a new school setting. However, it's clear that this needs to be managed correctly, especially when the child has additional needs.

Before a child joins your school, you will want to know as much as you can about them. Before September, this might mean:

1. Attending an annual review and/or meeting with the relevant staff from the previous setting.
2. Ensuring you get access to relevant documents (diagnostic reports, annual reviews, progress updates, etc.), as long as parents have agreed to this.
3. Setting up a meeting with the child's parents.
4. Providing additional opportunities for the child to visit your school.
5. Running a transition programme, perhaps using the Going Places Transition Scheme to support primary to secondary transition. If there is a summer school or taster day, consider whether the needs of students with SEND have been factored in. Is there any information you need to share in advance or any additional staffing requirement in order to make this a success?

SENDCO Tips

Find out early which incoming pupils might need something a bit extra in terms of transition.

Reach out to parents. It's possible you can allay their fears very quickly by sharing the support you have in place.

Listen to your current year 7s. They will tell you their own hopes and fears, ready for you to support your incoming cohort.

Get dates in the diary. Plan your summer term transition programme now – this level of certainty will give parents faith that you'll give transition the time it deserves.

FURTHER READING

Transition_tool.pdf



Going Places Transition Scheme
by Carolyn Gelenter,
Nadine Prescott | Waterstones



For answers to over 300 questions
that busy SENDCOs need to find
answers to quickly,
look at The Lone SENDCO

