

The background features a vertical gradient from light purple at the top to light blue at the bottom. Numerous realistic water droplets of various sizes are scattered across the surface, some with highlights and shadows. A large, faint, circular light effect is centered in the upper half of the image.

SPOTLIGHT ON TRANSITION

3RD JULY 2025

AIMS

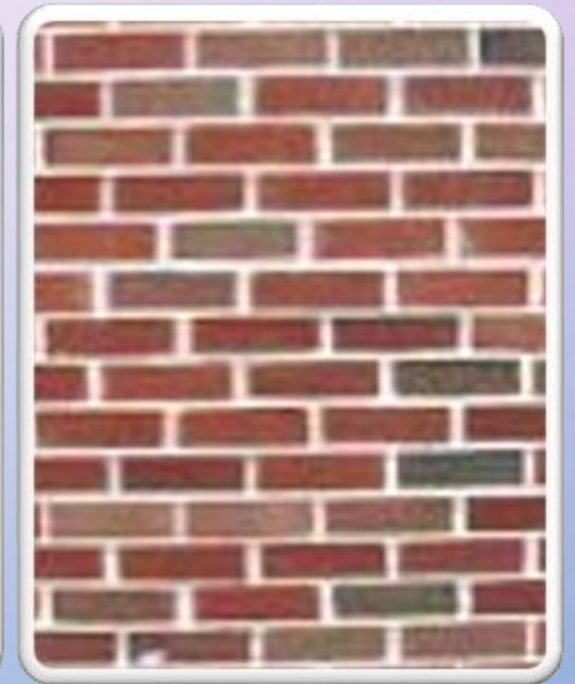
- TO UNDERSTAND THE IMPORTANCE OF TRANSITION
- TO HELP PARENTS PREPARE THEIR CHILD FOR TRANSITION
- TO SUPPORT PARENTS IN KNOWING WHAT QUESTIONS TO ASK SCHOOL STAFF IN PREPARATION FOR MOVING SCHOOLS
- TO PROVIDE USEFUL RESOURCES.





**HOW DOES
YOUR CHILD FEEL
ABOUT STARTING
SECONDARY
SCHOOL?**

WHAT IS YOUR BIGGEST WORRY ABOUT TRANSITION?



"What is ok to ask school to do?"

"Will he be able to make any friends?"

"How's he going to manage on the bus?"

"Will home life become harder?"

"Will he cope on the bus?"

"Being bullied by older students"

"What if school can't cope when she has a meltdown?"

"Are school going to provide the appropriate support?"

"What will happen if he won't do his homework?!"

"New teachers, new friends, new rules-how is he ever going to cope?"

PARENTS' WORRIES



HOW DID TRANSITION VISITS GO?

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP?

WRITE LIST ABOUT WHAT YOUR CHILD DOES KNOW ABOUT THE SCHOOL AND WHAT YOUR CHILD WOULD LIKE/ NEEDS TO KNOW

USE OF PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE BUILDING TO PROVIDE REMINDERS.



WHO CAN HELP YOU?



There are a lot of staff at Secondary School, but it is important that you and your child know key staff members:

SENCO
Form Tutor
ASD Champion
Key worker
TA/LSA class based or subject based Receptionist

Make a List!!!

THE JOURNEY

- **TAXI**

- HELP THEM TO IDENTIFY THEIR TAXI DRIVER BY ASKING FOR THEIR NAME.
- MAKE SURE THEY KNOW WHERE TO FIND THE TAXI.

- **BUS**

- IF ABLE TO, PRACTISE THE BUS ROUTE WITH THEM.
- SHOW THEM WHERE TO STAND, HOW TO USE THEIR BUS PASS, WHERE TO SIT, WHEN TO GET OFF.
- HELP THEM KNOW WHAT TO DO IF THEY MISS THE BUS.



THE JOURNEY

- **CAR**

- PRACTISE THE ROUTE WITH YOUR CHILD WELL IN ADVANCE. INCLUDE A COUPLE OF ROUTES IN CASE OF TRAFFIC/ROAD WORKS.
- IDENTIFY A DROP OFF AND PICK UP POINT.
- DO THEY NEED TO DO SOMETHING IN THE CAR TO HELP STAY RELAXED (MUSIC, DRAW, FIDDLE TOY ETC).



- **WALK**

- PRACTISE THE ROUTE WITH YOUR CHILD WELL IN ADVANCE. INCLUDE A COUPLE OF ROUTES IN CASE OF TRAFFIC/ROAD WORKS.
- CONSIDER OTHER TRUSTED CHILDREN THAT THEY COULD WALK TO SCHOOL WITH.
- EXPLORE TIMING ACCESSORIES SO THEY ARRIVE AT SCHOOL ON TIME.



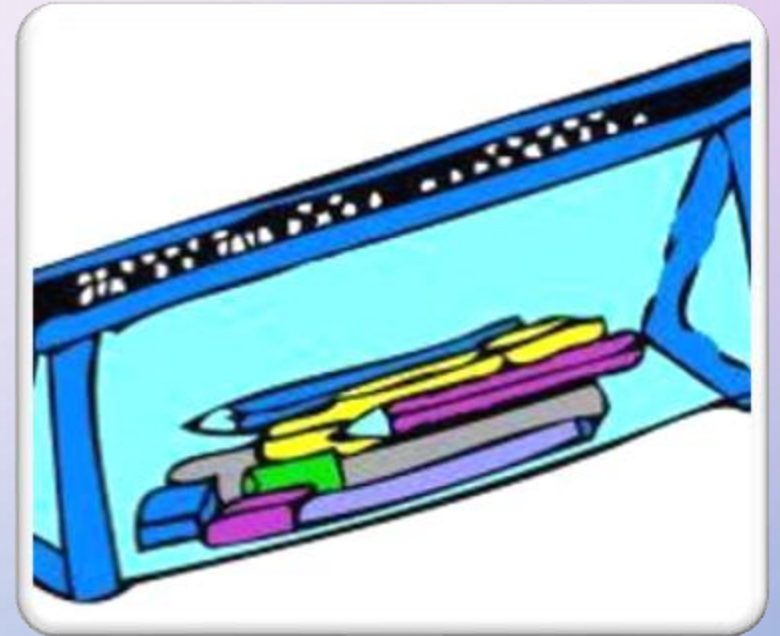
RULES ABOUT UNIFORM

- RULES ABOUT UNIFORM.
- SCHOOL SHOES.
- SPORTS KIT.
- WHAT HAPPENS IF THEY WON'T WEAR IT?
- NAME TAPES.
- LOSING THINGS.



EQUIPMENT

- REFER TO THE EQUIPMENT LIST.
- LOCKERS.
- MOBILE PHONE RULES.
- PRACTISE PACKING YOUR CHILD'S BAG FOR EACH DAY.
- PACK THEIR BAG THE NIGHT BEFORE.
- CONSIDER USING A VISUAL CHECKLIST.



SCHOOL DAY

- REGISTRATION/FORM
- BREAK TIMES
- BELLS
- ASSEMBLY
- SCHOOL DAY
- TERM TIMES



TIMETABLES

- THE RANGE OF SUBJECTS AND DIFFERENT CLASSROOMS AND TEACHERS COULD BE A HUGE CHALLENGE FOR YOUR CHILD - PRACTISE LOOKING AT A TIMETABLE.
- WEEK A AND WEEK B.
- NEW SUBJECTS.
- LESSON ROTATION.
- DIFFERENT TEACHERS FOR THE SAME SUBJECT.
- INTERVENTION.
- WE CAN PROVIDE VISUAL TIMETABLES IF NEEDED.

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
7.50-8.35 am	German	Music	German	History	French
8.40-9.25 am	Maths	English	Music	Chemistry	English
	B	R	E	A	K
9.45-10.30 am	Geography	German	PE	French	Maths
10.35-11.20 am	French	RE	PE	German	Maths
	B	R	E	A	K
11.35-12.20 pm	PE	French	Maths	English	PE
12.25-13.10 pm	RE	Chemistry	English	English	History
	B	R	E	A	K
13.15-14.00 pm		Geography			
14.00-15.30pm					
Clubs					

WHAT HAPPENS AT BREAK AND LUNCHTIMES

- WHERE THEY EAT LUNCH.
- HOW LONG THEY GET FOR LUNCH.
- PACKED LUNCH OR SCHOOL DINNERS.
- HOW TO PAY FOR FOOD.
- LUNCHTIME CLUBS.
- SEN ROOM ACCESS.
- TOILETS





Safe
Place

SAFE PLACE

- THERE IS AN INCREASED RISK OF ANXIETY AND OVERLOAD AND A SAFE SPACE TO WITHDRAW TO CAN EASE ANXIETY.
- WHEN CAN THEY ACCESS THIS?
- WHERE IS IT?
- HOW CAN THEY ACCESS IT?

HOMework



- EXPECTATIONS.
- LET THE SCHOOL KNOW IF YOUR CHILD IS STRUGGLING WITH HOMEWORK.
- SUPPORT IS AVAILABLE (HOMEWORK TIMETABLE, HOMEWORK CLUB)
- HOW DO YOU KNOW IF THEY HAVE HOMEWORK?
- INTERNET ACCESS.

BE AWARE OF THE BEHAVIOUR EXPECTATIONS

- REWARD SYSTEMS/ PERSONALISED.
- PRAISE POSTCARDS.
- CONSEQUENCES.
- AFTER SCHOOL DETENTIONS.
- ON CALL.
- BEHAVIOUR POLICY.



SCHOOL WEBSITE

- VIRTUAL TOUR.
- VIDEOS OF DIFFERENT ASPECTS OF SCHOOL LIFE.
- UP TO DATE INFORMATION.
- LOOK AT THE SCHOOL TWITTER ACCOUNT AND FACEBOOK PAGE.

PREPARATION THROUGH THE SUMMER HOLIDAY

Practise	Practise getting up early.
Practise	Practise trying on uniform.
Practise	Practise route to school.
Talk about	Talk about school in a positive way.
Look	Look at website, prospectus and transition booklet.
Watch	Watch the virtual tour of school if available
Attend	Attend summer school.



FIRST DAY

- GIVE YOUR CHILD CLEAR INSTRUCTIONS.
- TELL THEM WHAT IS GOING TO HAPPEN.
- TELL THEM WHO CAN HELP.
- TELL THEM WHERE TO GO IF THEY ARE STRUGGLING.
- TELL THEM WHAT TIME THEY WILL BE COMING HOME AGAIN.
- PLAN A FAVOURITE TEA.
- “WHAT WAS THE FUNNIEST THING THAT HAPPENED TODAY?”
- IT IS IMPORTANT THAT THE FIRST DAY IS SUCCESSFUL!



EXPECT THE UNEXPECTED

- HELP YOUR CHILD THINK ABOUT 'SURPRISES' IN ADVANCE. WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF...?
- CLASSES MAY CHANGE AT THE LAST MINUTE.
- SUPPLY TEACHERS.
- DIFFERENT SUPPORT STAFF.
- FIRE ALARMS.
- CHECK PLANNERS FOR INFORMATION.
- FOCUS ON THE POSITIVES.



QUESTIONS

