TRANSITIONS AND PREPARING FOR ADULTHOOD | ENGLAND

Primary to Secondary Transition Pack

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A preparation pack for the move from primary to secondary school, including visits, practical systems, and the child's views.

Placement decisions and admissions have their own formal processes. This pack does not apply for a school or replace official forms.

Who this is for

Families and Year 6 (or equivalent) pupils in England preparing for a secondary move, including where SEND support or an EHCP is part of the picture.

What is inside

- A timeline and checklist
- A pupil views page
- A visit and systems sheet
- A first-term review

Please read this first

This is a free starting-point resource from My SEND Friend. It is general information, not legal, medical or benefits advice, and it is not an official or government form. It does not guarantee an assessment, plan, adjustment, payment or any other outcome. Check current official guidance (for example GOV.UK) and get individual advice from SENDIASS, IPSEA or a suitably qualified adviser when you need it.

Start earlier than you think

Secondary school is not only a new building. It is new people, movement between rooms, a bigger lunch hall, homework systems, and often a longer journey. If the child has an EHCP, annual reviews in Year 5 and 6 should look ahead, but you can still use this pack if there is no plan. Check official admissions and transport dates for your area.

Checklist

- [ ] How and when to visit, including a quieter visit if a busy open evening would be too much
- [ ] Who the SENCO or key adult will be, and how we will share a profile
- [ ] The journey, independently or with support, and any transport questions
- [ ] Uniform, equipment, lockers, and getting between lessons
- [ ] Break, lunch, and what happens if the child feels overwhelmed
- [ ] Homework, detentions, and how we will communicate in the first term
- [ ] A review meeting date once term has started

The pupil's views

What I am looking forward to, or curious about

What I am worried about

What helps me in school now that I want the new school to know

Questions I want to ask on a visit

After a visit, and the first term

What we noticed on a visit, and what we still need to ask

A first-term review: what is working, and what needs to change

Useful next steps and sources

Use what helped in this pack and leave the rest. You can come back to it when you need to. Live tools on mysendfriend.co.uk remain free, including Help Me Now, the SEND Letter Builder, the Reasonable Adjustments Builder, the DLA and PIP Claim Planners, and the free resources hub. Saving work to My SEND Plan is optional.

Where to check official or independent information

Guidance and benefit rules can change. Check the current official position, and get individual advice when you need it.

- GOV.UK: Children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND)
- The SEND Code of Practice 2015 (England)
- The school's SEN information report and complaints policy
- Your local SENDIASS service
- IPSEA, for legally based information in England
- Preparing for Adulthood materials and your local offer, where relevant

A reminder about this free pack

This is a free starting-point resource from My SEND Friend. It is general information, not legal, medical or benefits advice, and it is not an official or government form. Using it does not start a statutory process or guarantee a particular outcome. Adapt every page to your situation.

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