



SEND & Wellbeing Newsletter

Term 6 – Transition Special

Transition at Newington School

Now we are in the final term we are beginning to prepare the children for a change of class or their new secondary school. Many children, especially those with SEND, are apprehensive about change so we put a lot of thought into the transition process. As we are a small school, the children are familiar with all of the staff and the layout of the school, however we have the following things in place:

- **1 transition afternoon for children to meet new teachers and TAs and spend time in their new class.**
- **A leaflet with photos of the new teacher, TAs and classroom so you can look at these over the holiday.**
- **Handover meetings between your child's current teacher and the new teacher.**
- **Extra 'informal' visits arranged for children who may need a little more reassurance.**
- **Small group 'transition' work with year sixes to help prepare them for secondary school.**



How can parents help with transitions at home?

Nursery to Reception - For our new reception children there are a lot of exciting things that are different at school from what they are used to. Here is a video about school readiness. Please start talking to your children and practicing some of these skills as this will really help them settle.

[School Readiness \(youtube.com\)](#)

Year 6 to Secondary - Moving to secondary school can be daunting - it's important to understand that everyone feels the same. Here is a great video that you may wish to watch with your children. [Moving Up! The transition to secondary school \(SUBTITLED\) \(youtube.com\)](#)

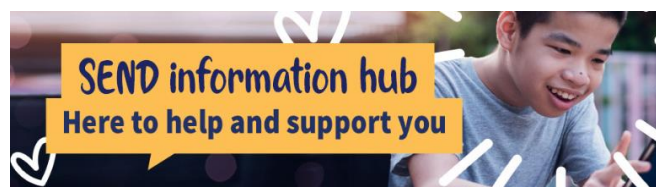
Rest assured that as a school we meet with all nurseries and secondary schools to share information regarding SEND. As parents you can also help by attending all new entrant meetings, looking at the school website with your child and ensuring your child attends any transition sessions offered by the school.

Kent SEND Information Hub

We would like to take this opportunity to signpost you to the Kent SEND information hub which can be found at: [Special educational needs and disabilities \(SEND\) - Kent County Council](#)

This website is extremely useful and full of information about Kent's SEND local offer. It has everything you need to know all in one place including:

- types of special educational needs;
- what to do if you think your child needs help;
- parent support;
- support for school age children
....and so much more.



Spotlight on 'Visual Timetables'

In school we use visual timetables as part of our 'mainstream core standards'. This strategy helps all children with transitions from one activity to the next. A visual timetable explains the structure of a day using pictures and symbols. It can support understanding of time words such as 'first' 'next' 'then' etc. as well as potentially reducing anxiety, in particular for pupils with SEND: For example:



Any changes to the school day can be explained using the visual timetable and for some individual children it may need to be broken down further.

This is when we may use a 'now/next' board. Here is an example:

