

TIPS FOR TRANSITIONING TO SECONDARY SCHOOL

8 tips to guide parents through the primary to secondary school transition process.

BEFORE YOUR VISIT



1 PLAN AHEAD

Thinking about what secondary school you want to send your child in year 5 or prior to this can help you prepare your child for the transition.

2 DO YOUR RESEARCH

Research the schools you might want to send your child to. You can have access to resources that will help you assess whether the school meets the needs of your child such as:

- The school's prospectus
- Special Educational Needs information report
- A copy of the Ofsted report
- A copy of the schools policies and procedures on SEN and BULLYING.

Most of these can be accessed on the individual schools website.



2 PLANNING YOUR VISIT

Planning your visit might help know what to expect and who you will be talking to. Plan how are getting to the school (Is the school easy to get to?). Contact the school to find out about the visiting process as every school is different.

DURING YOUR VISIT

4 MAKE NOTES

While you're there make physical or mental notes such as; do the staff and pupils look happy? Is the school accessible? Was it hard to get to the school? What does the school do to support children with SEN? How are the teachers communicating? Do any other children in the school have the same needs as your child?



5 DON'T BE AFRAID TO ASK QUESTIONS

Keep an open mind when visiting the schools and make sure to ask any questions you think might be crucial in your decision on whether you would be sending your child there. See how the teachers or pupils respond to your questions.



AFTER YOUR VISIT

5 REVIEW

Once you have visited all the secondary schools you have chosen to, you now need to decide which school would be best for your child. Consider which school provided the best support and environment for your child's needs.



7 CONTACT

After you've visited all the schools you might realise that you have forgotten to ask a question that might be crucial in deciding what school is best for your child. Contact the school office and ask your query.

8 SECOND VISIT

After you have decided what school you want your child to attend or at least narrowed it down you might want to attend for a second visit. This could help you make a final decision. During this second visit you might want to take your child to get their view.



For more information contact: www.kids.org.uk/sendiaass

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