

Top tips for transition from Year 6 to Year 7 – for Parents

Top Tips	Challenges	How to reduce challenges
<p>Saying goodbye to Primary School</p>	<p>Acknowledge that your child may be sad to leave Primary School. Think of ways they can say goodbye to their classroom, staff, friends etc.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Stories support children to understand change, providing reassurance and reducing anxiety. Information on writing social stories can be found here https://carolgraysocialstories.com/. • Send goodbye cards to staff/ friends.
<p>Transition visits/ get to know the school building</p>	<p>These give your child the opportunity to see the school before September, which often reduces anxiety.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Virtual Tour – As our normal transition days are not possible this year, take a look at our two Virtual Tours that will be available on our website. 
<p>Research as much about the new school as you can</p>	<p>Again, this often reduces anxiety and can encourage your child to ask questions about school.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utilise the Internet - Look on the school website for more information especially on the transition page at: https://www.noelbakeracademy.co.uk/transition-2/ • Visit our support with transition page on the SEND section on our website which can be found at: https://www.noelbakeracademy.co.uk/support-with-transition/ • Follow the school on our Facebook Page and Twitter account.  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transition material - read the school starter pack, which you have received through the post, along with our Moving Up Guide that is enclosed.

<p>Hear from current students</p>	<p>Hearing another pupil's perspective of the school can be really helpful and reassuring.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current students – please watch our SEND transition video on our website to hear from current students about their experience since starting at Noel-Baker and all of the support that they receive.
<p>Key Staff</p>	<p>There are many staff at secondary school, but it is important that you and your child know who the key members of staff are.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet the staff – watch the short videos that are available from all of the key members of staff, who you will meet very soon. • Meet the Inclusion Team - watch the short videos that are available from the members of our Inclusion Team who will be there to support you on a daily basis. • Both of these will be available very soon and can be found in the transition and SEND section of our website.
<p>One Page Profile</p>	<p>These are useful so that all new staff have an understanding of the individual needs of each student.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our one page profile is called a Student Information File (SIF). <div data-bbox="780 981 1422 1339" data-label="Form"> </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete the blank Student Information File (SIF) that is enclosed. Remember to recognise your child's strengths and interests, as well as strategies that teachers can use to support your child. • Ensure that you include your child's views when writing the Student Information File, as well as staff from their Primary School, as they know them best in the school environment. • Complete the Passport to Noel-Baker, which is enclosed. This will allow us to learn as much as possible about your child's likes and dislikes, helping us to build positive relationships.

<p>Sticker Strategies</p>	<p>Sticker strategies support your child with social situations they may have difficulty with.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Thinking – this can be used as prompt cards for a range of situations that may occur and identify steps to take. For example:: “If I arrive late to school” <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - I need to go through reception to the attendance office to sign in. - I then need to look at my timetable and go straight to my lesson. - I need to say ‘sorry I’m late’ to my teacher and sit at my desk.
<p>Timetables</p>	<p>The range of subjects and different classrooms and teachers could be a huge change for your child - practice looking at a timetable.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Example Timetable – I have enclosed an example timetable, so you and your child can familiarise yourselves with what a typical day may look like. Help your child to identify which classroom the subject is in, which teacher takes that class and the variety of subjects they will have as well as when break and lunch times are. • Colour code the timetable when you receive this in September – use one colour for subject area, room, teacher and TA name.
<p>Safe Space</p>	<p>There is an increased risk of anxiety and overload and a safe space to withdraw to will ease anxiety.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have a number of areas that your child will be able to access if they need somewhere quiet. We have a sensory room, a student support area and The Hub. • If your child enjoys reading, they can bring in a book and read this in The Hub at social times. 
<p>Summer holiday preparations</p>	<p>Try not to leave things to the last minute, use the time during the 6 week holidays to prepare and practise.</p>	<p>What is important</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practise the route to school. • Talk positively about the new school. • Allow your child to practise wearing the new school uniform. • Practise packing their bag with the relevant books/materials. • Display visuals in your home e.g timetable and countdown calendar to school etc.