



## **Supporting Your Child's Transition**

At Stratford Upon Avon Primary School, we know that moving from one year group to the next—or from primary to secondary school—is a big step in a child's journey. While it is an exciting time, we also recognise that some children may feel a little nervous about the changes ahead. That's why we have a well-structured transition process in place to make the experience as smooth and positive as possible for every child and their family.

### **Supporting Year Group Transitions**

To help children settle quickly and confidently into their new class, we begin preparations well in advance. Teachers receive detailed information about each child before the move, allowing them to prepare their classrooms and resources in a way that supports every learner.

Children are given opportunities to visit their new classroom and get to know their new teacher. Positive relationships are key, so we start building these as early as possible in the summer term before the transition in September. A dedicated Transition Day gives pupils the chance to spend a full day in their new class, experiencing lessons, routines, and expectations in a relaxed and supportive environment.

For those who need extra support, we offer additional visits before the new school year begins, helping them feel more comfortable and prepared. We also create transition booklets, which allow children to share key information about themselves, including their interests, strengths, and any worries they may have. Some pupils may also receive personalised support plans to ensure their individual needs are met.

We understand that visual aids can be really helpful, so we provide photos of teachers and classrooms in advance to help children familiarise themselves with their new surroundings. Timetables and routines are also shared ahead of time to give children a clear idea of what to expect.

Pupil well-being is at the heart of everything we do. Child voice is a key part of our transition process, and we encourage children to share their thoughts and feelings about the move. If any worries arise, we have dedicated pastoral support in place, as well as links to external agencies for additional guidance.

### **Preparing for Secondary School**

Moving on to secondary school is a huge milestone, and we want every child to feel ready and excited for this next chapter. Our preparation starts in Year 5 and continues throughout Year 6, giving children plenty of time to adjust to the idea of change.

Parents play a vital role in supporting their child through transitions. We offer parent information sessions, providing guidance and answering any questions to help families feel informed and reassured. We also welcome parental feedback so we can continue to improve our transition process each year.

We update all professional reports in Year 5 to ensure that children with SEND or EHCP needs have the correct support in place before moving on. In Year 6, our PSHE lessons focus on managing change, developing independence, and building confidence, helping pupils feel more prepared. A transition meeting between the new setting, parents and school staff will be requested to ensure the right level of support is passed over to the new setting. All documents will be sent over the new setting.



Each child takes part in at least one secondary school visit, with additional visits arranged for those who may find the transition more challenging. We work closely with local secondary schools, ensuring that all key information about a child's learning, well-being, and support needs is passed on. After the national Transition Day, we give children time to reflect, share their thoughts, and raise any concerns. This allows us to work together with their new school to address any worries before the big move.

To help children become more independent, we support them with organisation and responsibility skills, such as learning how to use a timetable, managing homework, and, where relevant, planning their journeys to school. Emotional well-being support is also available for children who feel nervous about the transition, either in small group sessions or through individual check-ins.

For children with additional needs, we provide extra transition support and ensure that all relevant services are involved in the process. We also continue to track and follow up with pupils after they have started secondary school, checking in with them and feeding back to parents where needed.

At Stratford Upon Avon Primary School, we are committed to making transitions a positive and exciting experience for every child. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Mrs Humphriss, Mrs Mc Cormack Ks2, Miss White Ks1 or Miss Parton Sendco—we are here to help!