Transition throughout the school

Our aim at Roecroft Lower School is to ensure that every child has a smooth transition to their next year group.

We know that moving to a new classroom and meeting new staff can be a very exciting time for most children but for a few children it can be very worrying. This document outlines what support we offer to children to help them prepare for moving up to the next year group.

New starters to the Early Years

All new starter information is shared with families following the national offer day in April. Once your child has been offered a place in Reception with us, you will be contacted by the school. In the summer term, the Early years teaching staff, including our Head of Early Years, Miss Ashby and Head of SEND and Inclusion, Mrs Taylor, meet with pre-schools and nurseries to ensure there is a thorough handover of information. There are also opportunities for both children and their families to visit the school in the summer term where children have the chance to play in the classrooms and outside areas. During these sessions, Miss Ashby shares lots of starting school information with families in the hall. In September, all children and families are invited for 1:1 visit with their class teacher for a 20-minute session before starting school full time, a chance to highlight concerns and ask any last-minute questions.

Miss Ashby manages the new starter transition and is happy to answer any questions you may have.

Transition for Year R, 1, 2, 3.

During the summer term, children will start to informally visit new year group classrooms and working areas and meet the staff that work there. This might involve walking through new areas on the way to other parts of the school, delivering messages to adults or adults popping into their current classrooms to say hello. Children will already be familiar with most members of staff in the key stage they are in, through assemblies, phonics groups and mental maths groups, once they realise that they know them, it helps alleviate any worries.

In the second half of the summer term adults in school will begin to talk about what is staying the same and what will be different, for example our school values, assemblies, lunch time routines, their friends etc will all be the same but the adults in their class,

the classroom and learning will be different. Informal visits to new areas and seeing staff will continue and for those children with additional needs we begin to implement individual transition plans.

For those children moving from year 2 to year 3, the classes will be mixed. We therefore offer opportunities for children to engage in extra activities to help them get to know each other.

Our current Reception children spend a few sessions all over the school in June, this is to allow our new starers to visit the reception unit. The classroom and staff member they visit, is not necessarily your child's new teacher.

Step up day

The local authority Step up day is in July. On this day the Year 4 children visit their new schools. The other year groups find out who their new teacher will be and which class they are in. They spend the morning doing fun activities in their new classrooms and getting to know the teacher and LSA. New class information is shared with parents on the same day, this will include an invitation for parent/carers to a 'Meet the teacher' session, where you will be given information about your child's new year group.

Individual transition support

Individual transition support is for those children who have been identified as having additional/SEND needs. These children will get their own transition booklet and attend transition nurture groups to give them the opportunity to share their worries and meet other children who are feeling apprehensive about the change. Parent/carers will be informed by the class teacher or member of the school SEND team of the support their child will be receiving.

After Step up day in July when children find out which class they will be in and who their new teacher will be, transition information booklets will be published on the school website. These booklets are available for families to access during the summer holidays to help you prepare your child at home and they will stay on the website until they are updated for the following year.

Mrs Taylor, Head of SEND and Inclusion, manages the individual transition support and is happy to answer any questions you may have.

Year 4 -Moving on to a new school

A lot of work goes in to making sure that the transition to a new school goes smoothly. At Roecroft we know your children well and we meet with relevant staff at the new school to handover all the information required to ensure children have a successful transition.

This includes:

- Year 4 teachers meet with the Year 5 teachers.
- Year 5 teachers may visit the children at Roecroft
- In the Autumn term, year 4 teacher visit the children in their new school.
- Mrs Taylor meets with the new school's SEND team.
- Our Safeguarding lead meets with school safeguarding teams this will include handing over pastoral information.
- As well as Step up day, schools may organise additional transition events such as sports sessions, as well as intake information evenings. This can vary between schools and year on year.
- Those children with SEND will be invited to attend extra transition visits arranged by the new school.
- We organise group activities lead by our Pastoral team, so the children can build friendships with other children going to the same school.

If you have any questions about transition to Year 5 please speak to the Year 4 teachers or Mrs Taylor.

Top tips to support transition

- It is **really important** to highlight that lots of things will stay the same and not everything will change.
- Using positive language around the change will help your child feel less worried. If you're not worried then your child will feel more confident.
- Remember our teaching team do on occasion move year group so please don't assume it is the same team for your child as they move through the years.