



Information, Advice and Support
Service

SENDIASS

Quick Guide to ... Transition into Secondary School



The transition to secondary school is a huge step for all children. It is an especially big step for children who have any kind of special needs. Teachers in secondary school can best meet your child's needs if they are fully informed about any special needs and areas of difficulty.



- Speak with the schools Special, educational needs coordinator (SENCO) to discuss your child's needs prior to starting school so they can make subject teachers aware.
- Ask for a simple map of the layout of the school or setting to help to familiarise the environment.
- Make copies of the timetable, use colour coding for each subject, laminate and stick-on bedroom wall or fridge.
- Arrange a specific space or storage area for books and homework.
- Find out who to contact if you have concerns e.g., SENCO, Head of Year, family liaison contact.
- Ask what strategies are in place and arrangements for the individual needs of children who attend the school for example, transition during busy times of the day
- Find out what provision is available at lunchtimes if children find this unstructured time challenging.
- Ask what strategies are available for children that struggle to record information.
- Make daily checklists for uniform, PE kit and books.
- Ensure your child knows where and who to go to if they are having difficulties.



For further information...

[Transition to secondary school: Mentally Healthy Schools](https://www.togethertrust.org.uk/SENDIASS)

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