



Standish Community
High School

be Outstanding!

KEY STAGE 2 – 3 TRANSITION



September

- Prior to Open Evening, visits to main feeder primary schools take place
- These visits involve our current Year 7 students visiting the primary schools they came from and delivering a short presentation to Year 6 students about their experience so far at Standish Community High School. They also answer a number of questions that Year 6 students may have about SCHS
- This presentation includes a number of slides with familiar faces on them. Some are photographs of students in Year 7 explaining their transition experiences, a selection are from Year 9 students detailing their options choices and some are of previous Year 11 students celebrating the GCSE's that they achieved.



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September/ October

Open Evening/ Morning

An opportunity for prospective parents and students to visit the school, see the facilities, meet staff and students and hear presentations from the Headteacher, other Senior Leaders and the Head Boy and Head Girl.



March - May

The list of names arrives from the LEA and at this point we begin to gather information from primary schools about our new cohort of students. Meetings take place to discuss each individual student, their interests, learning styles, abilities, friendship groups and additional needs.

This information is collected and collated by a small transition group of staff at school who are all linked to the pastoral team and Year 7. These staff include our Assistant Headteacher Pastoral, Assistant Headteacher Additional Needs, Pastoral Leader and members of our Student Services department.

Lots of time and consideration goes into placing students into the correct form groups. Information regarding combinations of individuals and distribution of students from the same primary school is carefully utilised to create balanced forms. Information from both primary colleagues and parents themselves is also taken into account.



March - May

Where possible we try to ensure that students from the same class at primary school are kept on the same half of the year. We endeavour to ensure that all students transitioning from a primary school with more than one other student are placed in a form group with at least one other person of the same gender from that primary school. We also consider the balance of gender and ability within each form group.

To ensure that we have not made any errors Year 6 teachers are contacted again to check through the proposed form groupings prior to these being communicated to parents.



June

- Year 7 students re-visit primary schools in June to deliver a presentation about SCHS from a student perspective
- This presentation is delivered by students who went to that particular primary school and any questions that the Year 6 students have are answered by the Year 7 students
- This often helps alleviate any fears that Year 6 students may have prior to coming on Taster Day starting with us in September



June

- **Students spend a full day at Standish Community High School. During this day students sample a variety of lessons, complete a session with their form tutor, visit the LRC and Student Services and attend an assembly in the hall**
- **Students are encouraged to use the school bus on this day if they are going to be coming to school on the bus to reduce any anxieties that they may have about this**
- **Students with any additional needs, anxieties or coming from primary schools on their own are offered additional extended transition visits to further support their move to Standish.**



July

- **Students that we feel would benefit from an additional Taster Day are invited in to spend the day with us again**
- **These students include those who may not have been able to attend the first Taster Day, vulnerable students, SEND students, students with behaviour concerns, those coming from primaries alone or those who are nervous or anxious about starting at Standish**
- **Activities on the day include orientation around the school site, lessons, students services sample sessions and nurture groups**
- **This day has proved beneficial and enables the students to get to know us and for us to get to know them.**



July

- **Induction Evening is an opportunity for students to spend more time with their form tutor and form group**
- **Students spend an hour with their forms completing more 'Getting to know you' activities**
- **Parents have the opportunity to:**
 1. **Listen to presentations from the Headteacher and other key staff involved with transition**
 2. **Visit The Canteen to observe our cashless catering system in action, view and taste samples of food served in school and take time to enjoy a drink and cake.**
 3. **Meet Uniform suppliers who are available to receive orders and see out uniform and PE kit being worn by students.**
 4. **Ask general questions from key staff including our transport manager regarding travel, LRC manager regarding equipment and resources linked to specific subject areas, English staff about our accelerated reading scheme and Student services staff regarding additional needs and support available.**



September

Once students start in September:

- All year groups including Year 7 have a non-teaching Pastoral Leader who is available full time to address concerns and discuss matters. Year 7 have a team of specialist form tutors who remain with new Year 7 forms each year as they are skilled at supporting students through their transitional year
- Year 7 have an allocated building that houses only Year 7 form rooms. This is adjacent to the allocated Year 7 yard. All Year 7 students in the first week have early lunches to familiarise themselves with systems and queues.



September

- Year 7 students are escorted out of school at the end of the day 5 minutes early to enable all students time to get on the bus and meet friends prior to the rest of the school being dismissed from lessons
- PSHEE+C units are based on getting to know you, getting organised/ coping with the transition
- In week 3 of term Year 7 students complete a feedback questionnaire online to provide feedback on their experiences so far and to identify any issues that have not yet been raised or addressed.



October

- During the first term, parents are invited into school to meet with their child's form tutor at Pastoral Parents Evening to review how students have settled into life at Standish and discuss anything on the horizon
- Parents are given the opportunity to meet form tutors to discuss how well they feel that the transition has gone
- Parents of students who are part of the Year 7 STAR group are also offered an appointment with the staff from the Student Services department
- We also ask parents to provide general feedback to help our continuous review and improvement of the transition programme at Standish
- Parents also receive a copy of the student questionnaire results to outline our overall student feedback from Term 1.



Autumn Term

- **Year 7 students are offered the opportunity to attend an Outdoor Education trip during the course of the Autumn Term**
- **This enables students to enjoy an off site enjoyable day participating in team building activities and outdoor pursuits**
- **Within this trip, we actively mix individuals in with different groups students to encourage the development of their social skills and integration with different people across the whole of Year 7.**