

It is often easy to forget something that you meant to ask, so make a list and take it with you when visiting your chosen secondary schools.

Here are some suggested questions that may help, but don't forget to ask questions which relate specifically to concerns you may have for your child.

- Are there are other children in the school with similar needs to your child?
- How is the information about children's diagnosis and strategies to support them communicated to teachers?
- If your child finds it difficult to manage unstructured time, social situations and noise such as break and lunch times, are there alternative supervised places for them to go?
- If your child struggles with a change in routine (eg staff or room changes), how will this be managed by the school?
- What are the communication systems from school to home and how much information is expected to be communicated from the pupil to you? Are there alternatives if this will be difficult for your child?
- What support is given with friendships, is there a buddy system for all year 7s?
- What pastoral support is in place from staff – e.g. will your child have a named person they can go to with any concerns?
- Once a school place has been offered, what transition support do the school offer?

Year 6 - 7 Transition

to Welwyn and Hatfield Secondary Schools

Information for parents of children with SEN/D

This booklet, created by the DSPL5 (Delivering Special Provision Locally) Welwyn and Hatfield Team aims to answer any questions you may have about the transition from Year 6 to Year 7 for your child.

You will find contact details for each of the 5 schools, things you should think about doing before transition, information you should look out for and some helpful tips to prepare your child for the transition to secondary school.



Bishop Hatfield
Girls' School



A SPECIALIST SCIENCE COLLEGE



Onslow St Audrey's



Sir Frederic
Osborn School



Stanborough

Contact details for the Welwyn and Hatfield Secondary Schools:



Bishop Hatfield
Girls' School

www.bishophatfield.herts.sch.uk Tel: 01707 275331



MONK'S
WALK
SCHOOL
A SPECIALIST SCIENCE COLLEGE

www.monkswalk.herts.sch.uk Tel: 01707 322846



Onslow St Audrey's

www.onslow.herts.sch.uk Tel: 01707 264228



Sir Frederic
Osborn School

www.sfosborn.herts.sch.uk Tel: 01707 351350



Stanborough

www.stanborough.herts.sch.uk Tel: 01707 321755

Things to look out for on the websites:

- All schools will have a 'Local Offer' document where you will find information about the SEN provision.
- The 'Learning Support' section to see what other support may be available.
 - The SEN and/or Inclusion Policy.
 - The Behaviour and Homework Policies.
- The School development/improvement plan - does it have a focus on SEN/D?
 - Information about open evenings and days.

Preparing your child for the Transition to Secondary School

Before:

- Attend the open evenings in September/October while your child is in year 5 and 6 to ensure you are fully informed about each school.
- Arrange to visit the school during lesson times with your child.
- Read the SEN information on the school website.
- If your child has a statement/EHC plan ensure the secondary SENCO from your chosen school is invited to the year 6 annual review.
- Make sure your child attends the transition/taster day at the end of year 6.
- Ask what extra support is available for your child (this may include extra visits).

During:

- Be positive about transition, if you are anxious, try to avoid sharing this with your child.
- Ensure that your child's SEN file reaches the Secondary school and talk to the SENCo to ensure they are aware of your child.
- Familiarise your child with the school and its routines, using the school website and calendar for information.
- Find out if there is a Year 7 transition evening in September once your child has started. It is important that you attend.

Always:

- Support your child's organisation - what equipment do they need? Have they got the correct equipment?
- Help your child to familiarise themselves with their timetable and encourage them to discuss any concerns with their form tutor.
- Provide a strict morning and bed time routine.
- Ensure your child gets enough sleep.
- Provide a homework routine and somewhere quiet for your child to complete it.