



Autism Acceptance Week Transitions



# Training for Autism Leads in Schools

Autism Acceptance Week Transitions

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# Today's session

- World Autism Acceptance Week
- -How was it for you in your settings?
- -Cognus events
- Transitions
- -General transition guidance
- -Transitioning between year groups
- -Transitioning between settings
- Resources and signposting

# Discussion: World Autism Acceptance 2024

- The importance of teaching about autism acceptance
- How was the week/month celebrated in your settings?
- Did you find the AET/NAS resources and assemblies useful?
- What went well? Even better if...
- How might you keep autism in mind throughout the year?

#### What helps or hinders my learning? Student voice

- "When there is a lot of instructions given at once I can't process them and get stuck or muddled"
- "It takes me time to process what I'm told before I can start."
- "I don't work well when instructions are vague or open ended"
- "Being able to take a break and step out of class or just reset."
- "Sitting on the edge (end) of table or more separately- more space to stim and tic and breathe"
- "I can't do work if I don't stim."
- "Some of the objects I like to stim with are not 'conventional' fidget toys because I break a lot of the small plastic ones..."
- · "Edith Stein gets overcrowded"
- "I don't fit in quiet spaces 'coz of (my) tics"
- "Clapping/cheering in assembly."
- "Sometimes the music or videos they play are loud for no reason"
- "Body sprays"
- "When there's a lot of people or it is hot"
- "Partner or group work makes me anxious"
- "I find it hard to ask questions or initiate talking if I'm not spoken to first so I therefore tend to freeze up and not ask for help or use my exit card"
- "Blazer feels suffocating"
- "P.E kit feels plasticy"
- "Lanyard gets annoying"
- "I find it hard to find shirts to wear (sixth form rules). We can't wear baggy things...It's hard for me to find clothes that don't feel awful."
- "Sixth Form trousers I don't like but especially in summer but I can't wear skirt- It's even worse"
- "Teachers using different lesson structures- too fast or not clear"
- "Whistles (or bells) for teachers are horrible and really scary!"
- "Overcrowding"
- "...the worst is when there is a change like a trip or something and I don't know what exactly to expect"
- "I socialise with one friend and that's enough for me, I don't crave much talking."
- "I often go to the bathroom to have a few minutes of being alone or stim or cry or unwind"
- "I like to chew on stuff sometimes but mask it because people can find it weird..."
- "Hate assemblies"
- "If we are doing one task for a while or just silent independent answering questions I
  get very easily unfocussed"
- "Can't organise revision time and materials"
- "...I struggle to prioritise tasks for them (study periods) and end up taking ages deciding what to do and wasting time"

# Example

#### Concern

· "It is hard to communicate anxiety"

- "Teachers do not know what my needs are."
- "Showing the exit card makes me feel uncomfortable"
- "Oxford road bus stop is so stressful and dangerous"
- "Hidden disabilities should be taught in PSHE"

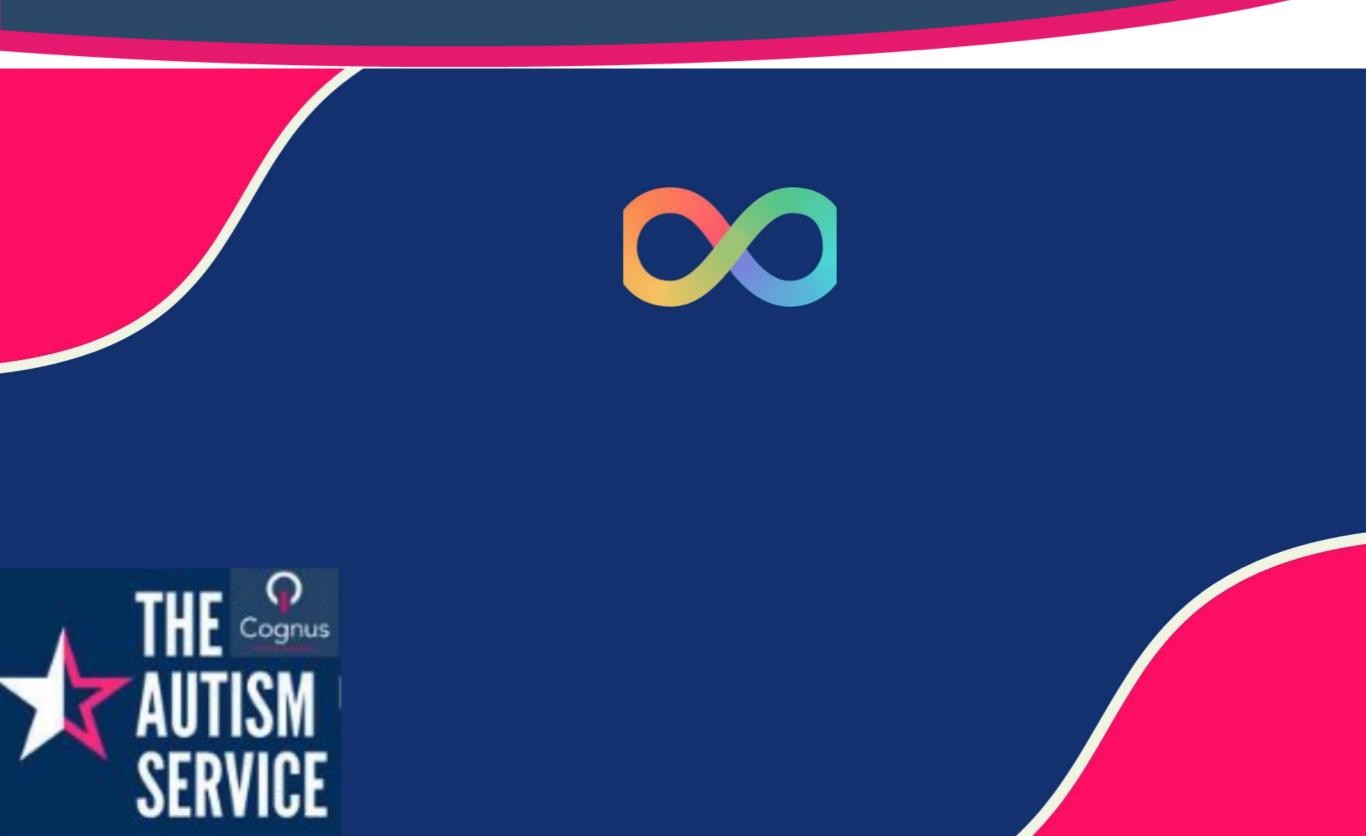
#### Possible strategies

- Basic sign language embedded throughout the school
- Use traffic lights consistently in ALL lessons not just for understanding but to communicate Zones of regulation.
- Communication cards (in planner?) for feelings as well as traffic lights for understanding.
- Pupil Passports printed and laminated for students to have in Blazer pocket.
- Reminder on the exit card of expectations
- SLT add this stop to bus duty if possible
- Survey to ask students what topics they would like covered in PSHE
- Consistency across all form tutors

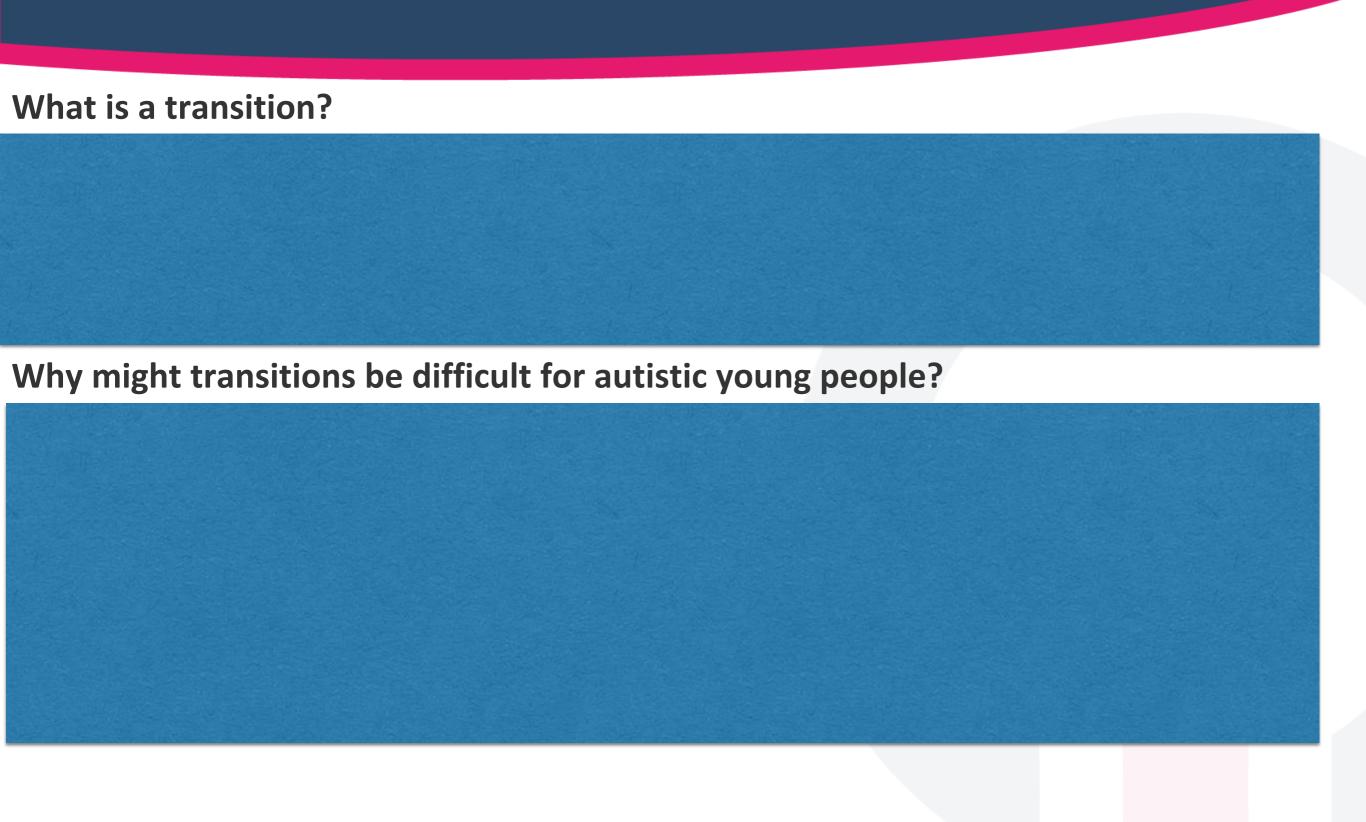
# Artistic and Autistic



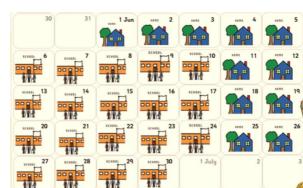
# Autism Acceptance Events 2024



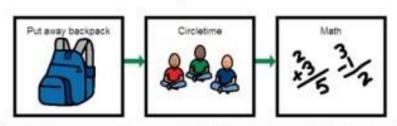
# **Transitions**

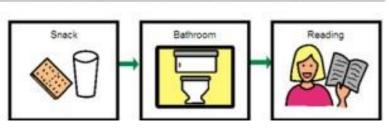






Morning Schedule



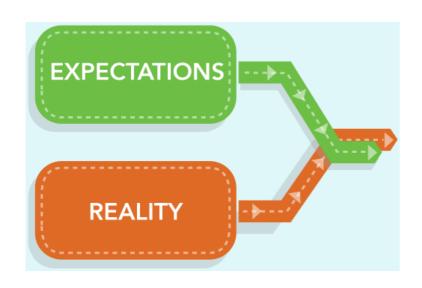


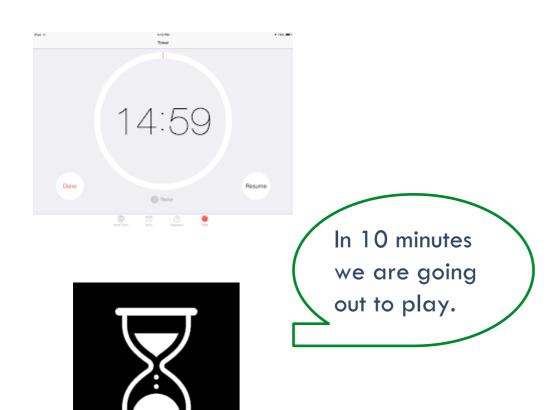
Things that may change	Primary School	Secondary School
Where and how you get your lunch		
Having all lessons in the same classroom		

#### Clear written / visual plan

Having a clear visual plan helps autistic learners to have a better sense of what is going to and provides a better sense of control. Visual supports can help everyone to understand what will be happening and reinforce verbal communication. Use visuals frequently, particularly if the change is going to take place over a prolonged time.

- Ensure the plan is simple and can be understood by the young person.
- Make sure the schedule is easily available or can be carried by your child so they can refer to it whenever they need to do so
- Use clear language and give the young person time to process what is said.
- Use pictures to help make concepts more concrete.
- When possible, give the young person some choice of activities and the order in which they will be done as this will help with a sense of control, reducing uncertainty and anxiety.
- Make sure that you show outcomes as well as the stages of a process. For example, if you are using visual support to explain a bus journey to school, make sure you use pictures of the whole process, including arriving at school.
- Mark changes to routine on a calendar and encourage the young person to count down to that day.





#### Set expectations ahead of time

Explain what is going to happen and what the expectations are before going into a given situation, making it more likely that they understand what to do before the transition, and will remember what to do and what to expect.

e.g. "We are now going to assembly in the big hall. We will be walking silently in a line, one behind the other keeping our hands to ourselves."

The result is mostly often that they follow the instructions.

#### **Count downs**

Give learners as much warning as possible about upcoming transitions, giving them time to process and prepare for the change. Using progressive reminders of the upcoming changes can be very supportive.

## E.g.

- 10 to 15 minutes before the transition is going to occur, tell the young person what is going to happen, when it is going to happen, and what they need to do.
- 5 minutes before, repeat.
- 2 minutes before, repeat.

Giving repeated reminders of what is going to occur beforehand helps reduce uncertainty and alleviate anxiety.

#### **Use motivators**

By sandwiching non-preferred activities between preferred activities, there is always something to look forward to even when the young person has to do something they do not like doing. This strategy reduces uncertainty through increased motivation as people are more willing to do nonpreferred activities if this gets them access to or leads to preferred activities.

e.g. "Resources away, then you can play dominos."



#### Be positive about change

It is common to avoid change as leaving our comfort zones can be scary. It is important however that we are positive about change. Positives of change include personal growth, increased flexibility and progress. Help your students to see change as positive.



The strategies work well together. The more consistently there is, the better they work. Do share the strategies with other teaching staff and with the family. When teachers, teaching staff, parents, therapists, etc., are all doing the same thing, the young person experiences less uncertainty and, therefore, less stress. This, in turn, should result in calmer transitions.





# What are the biggest challenges us as practitioners face with transitions?























# Transitions between year groups

# Successful transition starts now...

You'll soon be in year (insert threatening year group name here) They're really confident now...I can't believe how well they are doing compared to September!

It's that time of year when you start thinking of the next year group. You've had two whole *long* terms with your class and have got your strategies and routines down to a T! But soon that could all change.... However, do not fear! With a bit of time and thought you can help make the transition run smoothly for all involved.

#### For the new class teacher:

- Start to note down any strategies that you are using with your pupil
  - You may not even realise it is a strategy but anything you do differently, the new teacher needs to know!
  - o It could be things like:
    - Using their name to cue them into instructions
    - Counting to 10 in your head when waiting for them to answer a question
    - Drawing pictures to support verbal instructions
- That look that \*\*\*\* gives when he's had a bad weekend? The new teacher needs to know about it. Any quirks or habits you've worked out must be passed on – this could be the difference between a meltdown and pre-empting it.

#### For your pupil:

- For the majority of the class, having an introductory lesson with the new teacher will be enough
  for them to relax over the Summer Holidays. However, for pupils with autism they may have
  more questions they need answered. Creating additional opportunities for them to transition
  gradually as well as a visual transition book to take home over the summer, can help reduce
  anxiety:
  - Arrange for additional informal meetings between the new teacher and pupil.
  - o Take photos of the new teacher (and pupil together if appropriate) as well as:
    - The toilets they will be using
    - · Where they will eat lunch
    - Where they will have assembly
    - Where they will go home/come into school
    - What uniform they will be wearing etc.etc.
  - Some of these things may be the same as last year, but STILL INCLUDE them as then you are answering their questions and it is reassuring to know some things will stay the
  - List down any class rules and rewards

#### **Changing year groups**

- •Arrange a one-to-one meeting for them with their new teacher.
- •Plan a time for them to visit their new classroom when there are no other pupils there.
- •Identify a buddy from their new peer group.
- •Make sure that their new teacher has an understanding of their individual needs and any strategies that are used to support them in the classroom – a physical document is helpful.
- •Make a transition book with them, including things that will remain the same and things that will be different.

# Transitions between settings

**School admissions - Sutton Council** 

Enquiries: suttonadmissions@cognus.org.uk











Home > Schools and learning

#### School admissions

Apply for a school place, in-year admissions or check the distance to schools

#### National offer day for primary schools

Information about national offer day for primary school places starting in September

#### National offer day for junior schools

Information about national offer day for junior school places for September 2024.

#### National offer day for secondary schools

Information about national offer day for secondary schools starting in September

#### Apply to start secondary school

Applying to transfer to secondary school 2024 for children born between 1 September 2012 and 31st August 2013.

National Offer Day is 1st March and outcomes will be emailed during the evening. More information will follow shortly.

#### Apply to start primary school

Applying to start primary school 2024. For children born between 1 September 2019 and 31 August 2020.

National Offer Day is 16 April and outcomes will be emailed during the evening. More information will follow shortly.

#### Apply to transfer to junior school

Applying to transfer to junior school 2024. For children born 1 September 2016 and 31 August 2017.

National Offer Day is 16 April and outcomes will be emailed during the evening. More information will follow shortly.

#### In-year admissions and vacancy checker

For children new to the area, changing schools in-year or without a school. Check our Sutton school vacancy checker.

#### School application, transfer and offer dates

Find out about school applications, transfers and national offer dates

#### Check the distance to a school

Find distances from any home in Sutton to nearby schools.

#### School applications for Ukraine arrivals

School admissions guidance for families arriving from Ukraine.

#### Apply for a school place from abroad

If you are moving to Sutton from outside of England (including from Scotland, Ireland or

#### Apply to delay starting primary school

How your summer born child can start reception or primary school later.

#### School term dates

Get term dates for community schools in

#### Appeal a school admission decision

What to do if your child is not offered a place at a school they prefer.

#### Admission arrangements

Information about admission arrangements for 2024/25.

#### Technical colleges and studio schools

Technically-oriented courses or skill-based learning for 14-19 year olds.

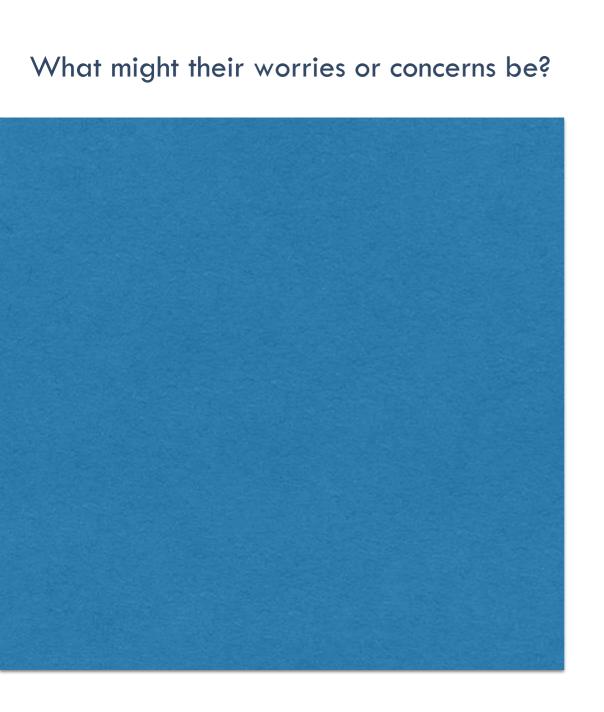
#### Sixth Form Admissions - for year 12 and 13

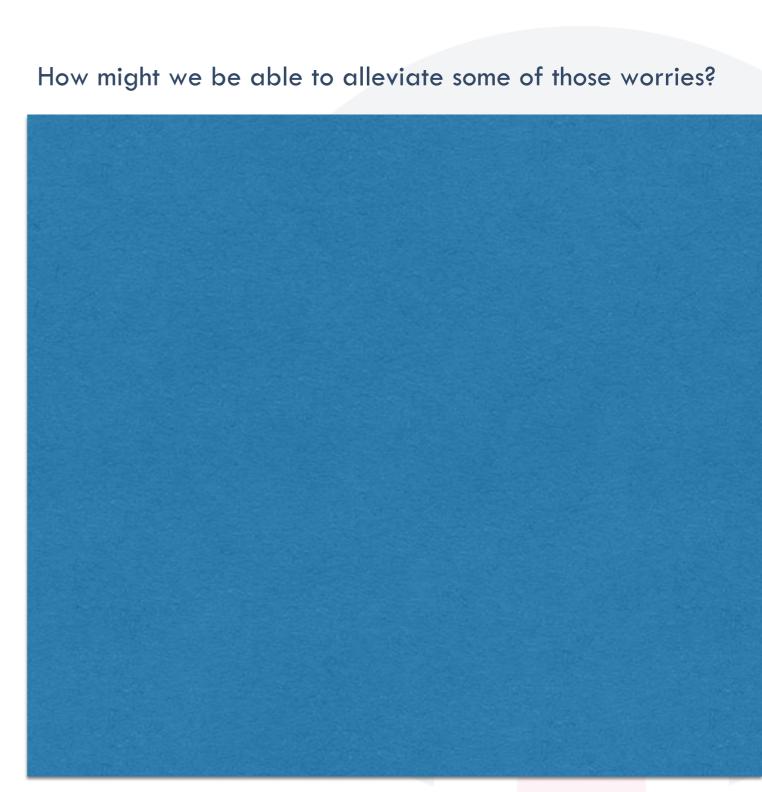
Applying for sixth form education in year 12 and 13.

# Transitions between settings – Top tips!

- •Clear communication between schools, parents and young people.
- •A personalised process to meet the needs of pupil.
- Advanced planning involving all parties.
- •Arranged visits or transition days to the new education setting so that the young person can become familiar with the environment and teaching staff, as well as take photos.
- •Create a **transition booklet** with accessible information that they can refer back to (this should include new school's expectations such as uniform, structure, routine, homework, subjects).
- •Create a **personal passport** with each young person so that they can share this with their new setting (this should include a simple explanation of needs, motivators, likes, dislikes, how staff can help).
- •Encourage the young person and their family to practice the route to their new setting.
- •Marking the end of one setting with **celebrations** and ensure **closure**.
- •Organise peer support, e.g. a friendship group, special interest club or buddy system.
- •Share all information (in writing but even better via email) with pupil, parents/carers, new school (SENCO).

# Listen to their voices too!





# Creating a transition booket

Photos:

Entrance and important areas within school

Key staff

Playground

**Dining Hall** 

Library

Safe space

Map of school

**Toilets** 

- Names and roles of important people including those who can help and how to ask for it
- School Rules, rewards and sanctions
- Uniform expectations
- Timetable, planner, lesson resources for each lesson
- New/key vocabulary
- Daily checklist

## If I need to leave class, I must:

- . Tell my teacher or LSA, "I need Time Out."
- . Show them my Time Out Card
- Go to see Ms Fisher
- If someone stops me in the corridor I need to show them my Time Out Card

There are rules in lots of different places. The rules keep us safe. If we break the rules then there are always consequences. It is important that we make the right decision.

These are the rules at school and the consequences if we break the rules:

uics.				
0 minute after school detention				
One hour after school detention				
0 minute afterschool detention				
0 minute afterschool detention				
iternal exclusion and offered the correct uniform to wear				
errings need to be put in your bag				
Make up needs to be removed using a face wipe				
0 minute afterschool detention				



<u>Form Tutor</u> – the teacher who takes you AM and PM register and supports your pastoral care in school. <u>Change over</u> – the 5 minutes you have between lessons to get to your next lesson.

Period – a lesson. You have 5 periods a day.

Week 1 and week 2 - you will have a 2 week timetable to follow.

<u>Timetable</u> – your own personal guide of what subjects you have for each period, what classroom it will be in, who the teacher is and what week it is.

<u>The badge</u> – the badge on the floor at the main entrance of the school. You often meet here for school trips.

The black box – a black box opposite the canteen where you put reply slips for school trips.

Student services – at the front of the school where you can ask a member of staff for help.

Blue slip — a slip you receive from a teacher about improvements you are making in lessons.

Orange slip – a slip you receive from a teacher about how well you are doping in lessons.

<u>Vivo</u> – a point you receive for being a good student. You can spend your points on small gifts for yourself. <u>Yellow slip</u> – a slip you receive from a teacher about poor behaviour in and out of lessons.

<u>Isolation</u> – a room you sit in silently all day on a Wednesday if you haven't met school expectations and displayed poor behaviour.

The cage – the playground only for year 7 students.

<u>Show My Homework</u> – an online page where you learn what your homework is and submit it. You will get a login and password for this.

# Example

# GREENSHAW 1

#### Welcome to Greenshaw

This is the main entrance, where you will come into school every day.



These are views of the new reception area and the main corridor leading down to the







Food at Greenshaw is very good. On the left is the Cool Zone where you can buy sandwiches, cookies and fruit at lunchtime.



In the Dining Hall, on the right, you can buy a selection of hot food before school, break, lunchtime and after school.



On the left is one of the Food Technology classrooms.



On the right is the Dance Studio.



Our astro football pitch.





This is the entrance to the Language Building.

The Speech & Language Department and the Inclusion Team are based upstairs.



On the left is one of our classrooms.

On the right is our computer room where we have homework club at lunch time and afterschool. Everyone is welcome to attend!



All the staff in the Speech & Language Department and Inclusion Department look forward to meeting you all in September.

Have a lovely summer holiday.

# Example

# **Daily Check List**



### Equipment to remember every day:

- Planner
- Pencil Case
- Books for today only (Check your timetable to see what books you need)
- P.F. kit (Only if you have PE today)
- Packed lunch (if needed)
- Letters/reply slips (if needed)

# Have a good day at school!





#### The following equipment is compulsory for lessons:

- · Greenshaw school bag and exercise books
- · Large see through pencil case
- Three black or blue pens
- HB pencil
- Glue stick
- · White board (provided by the school)
- White board black marker pen
- Rubber
- Sharpener
- 30cm ruler
- Protractor
- One highlighter pen
- Scientific calculator
- · School journal
- · Reading book
- 2B pencil, size 6 paintbrush (only for art lessons)
- . P.E. Kit (only on P.E. days)









My school timetable.

Have I let my family know

what time I will be home?

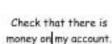
Is there an after-school

club today?















My mobile phone... is it



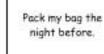
credit?



My completed homework Remember phones cannot be used in schooll



The right school uniform.









Take responsibility for getting a good night's Make time for breakfast!



Write important numbers down - in case you misplace your phone!

> Mum - 8123 4567 John - 8765 4321

# Creating a pupil passport

**	***	***	***		
	Important Information about me:		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
	MY NAME:	Personal Passport of	* * *		
	DATE OF BIRTH:		* * *		
	NAME OF MY PARENTS:		☆ ☆		
	MY HOME ADDRESS:	I am moving from	* *		
			* ************************************		
	MY HOME TELEPHONE NUMBER:	to	** ** **		
	MY DIAGNOSIS (or MEDICAL CONDITION):		** ** ** **		
	MEDICATION YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT:		**********************	**********************	r 🕸 🏠 1
	MY SPECIAL DIET:	PASSPORT	Important things about me:	Things I like to eat and drink:	7
			Things that I like to do:		7
			Things I do not like that may upset me:	3 3 3	
			Places I like to go:		2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2
				If I become upset, you could help by:	1
			My strengths:		***************************************
				My favourite thing to talk about is:	4444
			Things I may need help with:	Salar Maria Salar Salar Salar Salar	KKK

# Further resources and templates

Home About Us Our Traded Offer Our Services Work with Us Contact Us

<u>Home</u> > <u>Services</u> > <u>Autism and Social Communication</u> > Resources

# In this section Meet the team Welcome information = Autism service Autism Acceptance Week events for 2024 Autism Leads in Schools 2023-24 Autistic Youth Choir Autism Champion Training 2021 Parent and Carer Workshops Events Resources Testimonials and Impact

Themes: <u>Education for all (Inclusion)</u>, <u>Special Educational Needs & Disabilities (SEND)</u>
Audiences: Families, Professionals

## Resources

Please choose from the options below

- Social communication
- Tips to support your autistic learners
- Top tips video
- General resources

#### Social Communication

Autism Service Resource List

**AET Transition-Toolkit** 

Secondary school transition pack template

Autism Service Pupil Transition Booklet

Passport A5 Doublesided leaflet

Example of child's primary transition book

Template for transition book for receiving teacher

Transition between year groups Y8 demo book

Transition tips for all year groups

Tips to support your autistic learners

Resources - Cognus

# Education Wellbeing Resources – School Staff



Starting College: Reaching Your Goals -Student Webinar Part 4/4

36 views • 1 year ago



Starting College: Managing Worries About Change - Student Webinar Part 3/4

41 views • 1 year ago



Starting College: Self-Care & Maintaining Positive Wellbeing - Student Webinar Part...

69 views • 1 year ago



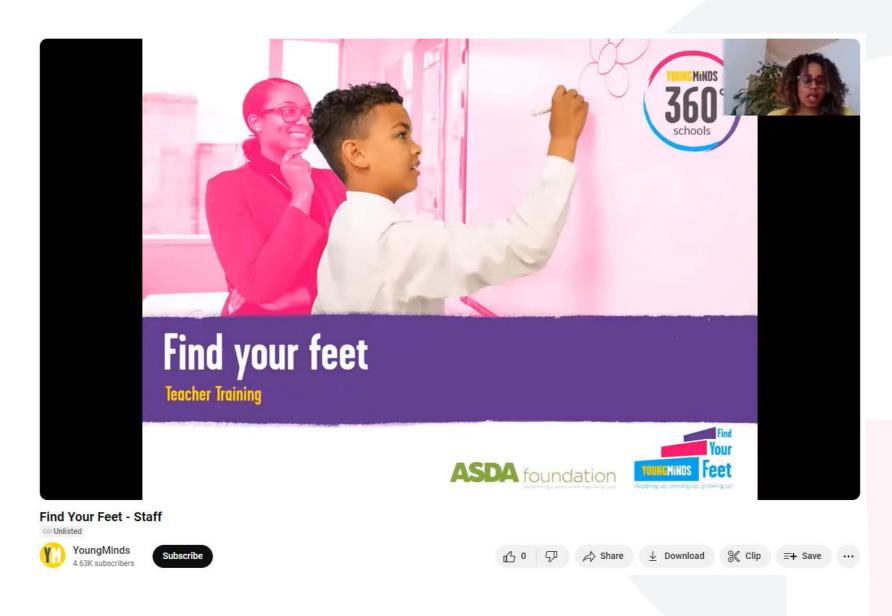
Starting College: Introduction to Wellbeing -Student Webinar Part 1/4

109 views • 1 year ago

# Education Wellbeing ServiceSWLSTG - YouTube

# Young Minds Resources - School Staff

Supporting school transitions | Resources | YoungMinds



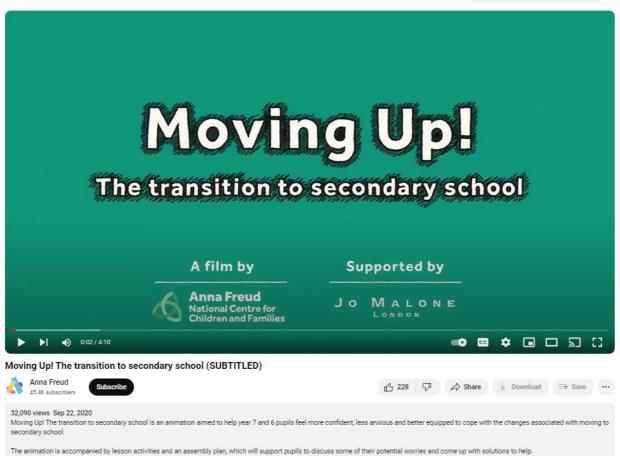
Find Your Feet - Staff (youtube.com)

# Anna Freud Resources – School Staff

#### Moving up! The transition to secondary school | Anna Freud

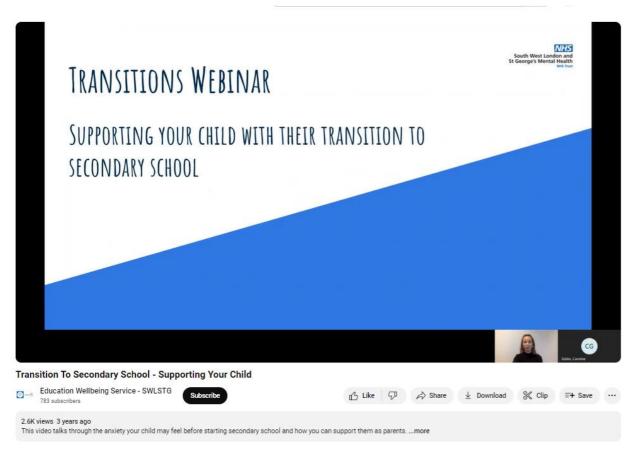
The Teacher Toolkit for school staff to use alongside the animation includes:

- •a Lesson Plan and various lesson activities
- •an Assembly Plan and PowerPoint slide show
- •a list of helpful resources
- •a copy of the animation script
- •a blank signposting poster for you to print and use in school.



Moving Up! The transition to secondary school (SUBTITLED) (youtube.com)

# Education Wellbeing Resources – Parents



02 SURI 40s AlfieVO (youtube.com)



Supporting Your Teen With The Transition To College - Parent Webinar

240 views • 1 year ago

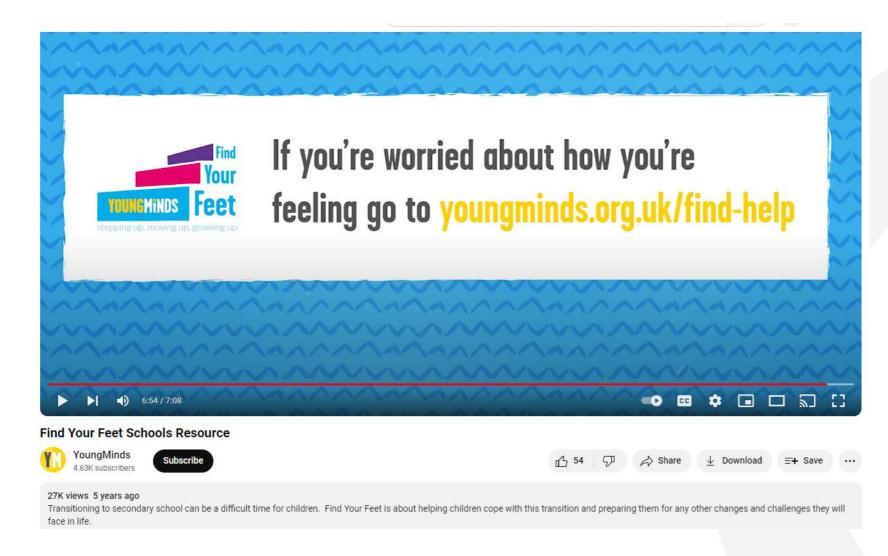
Education Wellbeing Service - SWLSTG - YouTube

# Young Minds Resources – Parents



Find Your Feet - Parent session (youtube.com)

# Young Minds Resources – Pupils



# Find Your Feet Schools Resource (youtube.com)

<u>pupil-resource.pdf (youngminds.org.uk)</u> <u>fyf-teacher-resource-year-6.pdf (youngminds.org.uk)</u> <u>fyf-teacher-resource-year-7.pdf (youngminds.org.uk)</u>

# Your suggestions

Would anyone like to comment on ways that they support transition in their schools and the impact of this?

Does anyone have anything that they would like to share with secondary schools that would support a smoother transition?

# ITT/KCIL

# The ITT programme

The individualised travel training programme includes:

- one-to-one personalised travel trainer support
- journey planning
- road and personal safety skills
- time management
- emergency strategies
- stranger awareness
- contactless payment methods

Draw yourself walking along the pavement in the safest place.



Clue: It is always best to stay furthest from the road.

Why is this the safest place to walk on the pavement?



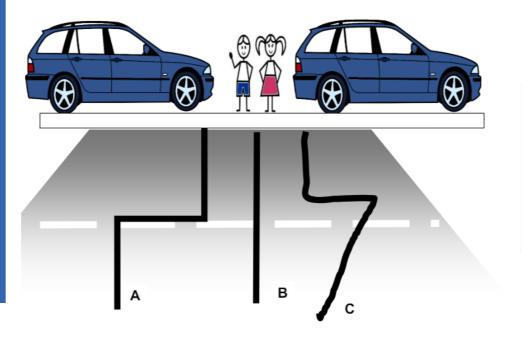


#### Max and Maxine - Keeping safe.

Max and Maxine want to cross over the road.

Which route should they take?

Use your ruler to measure the length of the lines. Have you chosen the shortest route for them?



# <u>The Independent Travel Training</u> <u>Programme – Kcil</u>

The Sutton Independent Travel
Team run 1:1 sessions for young
people with an EHCP who are
currently receiving transport.

They ran a workshop during World Autism Acceptance Week and they are planning to host another workshop in the Summer Term, date to be confirmed.

If you have young people currently using assisted transport, they may be eligible for the travel training programme. Please share this information with families and direct them to the above website.

To support young people to become more independent, they have shared their workbooks (KS2/KS3). These will be sent through to you all and can be used to support independence.

# Autsera



My Blog – My WordPress Blog (autsera.com)

# Quad Emo by Autsera



# free min Emotion Regulation Workshop



Introduction 10 min

Meet QuadEmo
4 animals:
blue whale,
green bird,
yellow mouse
and red bull



Read and
discuss
QuadEmo
storybooks
about emotions



Discussion 10 min

Talk about
what makes
children happy,
sad, etc..., and
regulation
strategies



Activity
15 min or more

Play QuadEmo and do QuadEmo paper activities to reinforce learning

# **Book Now**



hello@quademo.com https://www.quademo.com/workshops-form/



# Quad Emo by Autsera



# Emotion Regulation School Resource



QuadEmo game app helps children

# Understand, Express, and Regulate Emotions

through engaging game play that aligns with

KS1 PSHE curriculum









# Quad Emo by Autsera



# How it works



Children learn to recognise emotions and identify them in their animal quadrants.

Children learn to link social situations to emotions and emotion regulation strategies.

You save time and enhance learning experiences with the in-built teaching plan.

You monitor progress and generate automatic reports at the touch of a button.







# Feedback



https://forms.office.com/e/wvWVa4VUne

The Autism Service is commissioned by the London Brough of Sutton. How the support is provided must reflect the support that is needed. Please scan the QR code now and share your feedback. Or email your thoughts to <a href="mailto:theautismservice@cognus.org.uk">theautismservice@cognus.org.uk</a>.





#### Transition tips - a guide for higher education professionals

All colleges and universities have autistic students. The key to their success will be a good transition, where staff get to know students and how to meet their needs.

It's important for further and higher education settings to create a culture of inclusion and aspiration, as this will lead to progression and positive outcomes for all learners.

While autistic students may struggle with aspects of college and university life they have skills and strengths which should be valued. Enthusiasm, punctuality, determination and reliability are among the many qualities that students on the autism spectrum may bring.

#### Preparing an autistic student for entry

Here are some ways that you can help prepare an autistic student for entry.

- •Have clear information on access arrangements in the prospectus and on your website.
- •Ensure there are clear signs around the campus or site and maps that are easy to understand before potential students visit.
- •Once you have established an applicant is autistic, contact them to discuss their needs and concerns.
- •Provide support to help successful applicants find suitable accommodation if appropriate.
- •Have a 'safe' space on campus for the individual to go to when anxiety levels get too high and highlight this to autistic students before they start their course.
- •Provide information in a visual format if necessary eg photos of campus, site or staff.
- •Ensure that you are linking with the schools of future students to create clear and robust transition plans and understand the individual's needs. This could include attending annual reviews, transition visits for the student to college and college staff visiting and their current school to shadow staff.
- •Understand and recognise the rights and needs of autistic learners by: listening to their views and those of their family; personalising programmes and supporting them to reach their chosen destination.
- •Identify someone, usually the disability co-ordinator or officer, who has responsibility for supporting autistic students and ensure that applicants are aware of this contact.
- •Provide mentors who are more experienced students that want to be help support new autistic students with the more challenging aspects of college, such as walking through busy corridors and unstructured times.
- •Effectively support transition for all learners, both from school to college and from college into higher education, ensuring they are working and living as independently as possible.
- •Ensure that all college staff have an understanding of autism, and that teaching staff draw on specialist expertise to adapt the curriculum and develop inclusive teaching methods.
- •Ensure all staff are given information about a student's needs.

These adaptations may benefit all students, particularly those that may have other disabilities.

It's useful to link in with local or national organisations that can provide support and ensure that students have the information they need. For example, Disabled Students' Allowance (DSA) can be claimed by students in England, Wales, Northern Ireland and Scotland.

#### More information

Find out more about autism

Read our <u>transition information</u> on leaving school and starting college or university, specific to England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales Read Supporting autistic people to transition into university life

Organise Understanding autism training for your staff

Find out about our other training and conferences

# Secondary – college/university/work

#### Going to college or university

The following information has been put together with the help of an experienced lead from a specialist unit within a mainstream school.

#### Plan, personalise and prepare

- •Ensure that careers education and planning programmes form part of the young person's transition plan and appropriately reflect their individual requirements (National Transition Support Team, 2011).
- •Help them to choose goals that are realistic and achievable, but don't limit them.
- •Support and encourage them to reach their full potential and work hard towards their goals.
- •Plan well in advance with the key people involved the young person, their parents/carers, SENCO, advocate (if necessary), teachers and staff from the new setting, eg teacher, lecturer, support worker, employer.
- •Use visual aids, eg videos and photographs of key people and buildings.
- •Start travel training early. It may be a long and intense learning process, but one that can be very rewarding as you see autistic pupils become more independent.
- •Be aware of the importance of social skills and social confidence.
- •Organise familiarisation visits to the new college or employer. These can be as staggered, eg trip to gate, trip to outside college and then a separate trip to inside.
- •Have college staff visit your school to meet specific students.
- •Organise peer support, eg a friendship group, buddy system if the young person is moving to the school's 6th form.
- •Arrange visits from students/employees who are already at the future college or place of employment.
- •Advise that staff at the new education placement or employer have understanding autism training.

#### Further help from our charity

Read our <u>transition information</u> for parents on starting or changing school. It contains information about how school and parents can work together and is specific to England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales.

Read Autism transitioning from primary to secondary school

Find out about the Brain in Hand digital self-management support system

# Secondary – college/university/work

Spring School | Spring School provides children with the specialist, intensive and integrated support to enable them to learn, thrive and achieve.

Share Community | Wellbeing and independent living skills for disabled adults

- Sign up for NAS Sutton Branch. They have just got up and running again and have some great opportunities to socialise. To find out what events are on offer, you will need to sign up, as they only advertise to their members. Recent events include discos and rock climbing! <u>Membership – NAS Sutton Branch</u>. More info and activities are signposted here: <u>Children & Teens – NAS Sutton Branch</u>
- 2. Sutton Library has Inclusive events for young people and adults **Events & Bookings | Sutton Libraries**.
- 3. <u>Disability Activities | Sutton | Keen2Go</u> offers activities and opportunities to socialise.
- 4. Use the Sutton Info Hub as well to find opportunities: Search results | Sutton Information Hub
- 5. Events in Greater London | The Autism Directory offers standalone events that may interest you.
- 6. Depending on your interests, and the frequency in which you'd like to meet, regular groups like these may be more suited. These particular ones are inclusive rather than autism/SEND specific:

<u>Sutton Games Club | BoardGameGeek</u> <u>Belong Sutton</u>

1. Here are some local work-based opportunities, which are aimed at specifically at adults with SEND – these companies may be able to advise you on how they fundraise and how their services support people with SEND looking for work (which may be useful for researching for you CIC):

<u>Learning disability support | Nickel Support | England and Interestingly Different | Home</u>

Hill College who offer internships and courses to support young people and adults with the acquisition of life skills amongst other course: workstart.me.uk/courses/supported-internships/

- 1. WorkStart courses Orchard Hill College,
  I do hope the information is helpful. I'll be in touch once I have heard back from Orchard Hill College.
- 1. Legacy Youth Zone | Home

# E-learning (autism.org.uk)

# Free courses:

#### A guide to the mental health experiences and needs of autistic teenagers

The aim of the module is to increase understanding of autistic experience, autistic mental health experiences and to explore supportive strategies to support young autistic people's mental health.

Module outcomes

- Identify some of the autistic experiences relating to the autistic young person they are supporting
- Identify some of the mental health experiences relating to the autistic young person they are supporting
- Adjust their practice and make reasonable adjustments to better support their autistic young person.

#### **Managing money**

This module is offered by MoneySuperMarket.com in association with the National Autistic Society, this module is free of charge and covers a wide range of money-related topics. It can be completed in one visit or accessed section by section over as many visits as required. The module was created to help learners to recognise their strengths as well as the challenges they may experience with managing their money. It shares real-life experiences of autistic people about the sorts of difficulties they encounter, and how they successfully manage their money. Module outcomes

• General information is provided on how to manage money, set up a bank account, use a cashpoint, and so on.

#### Finding employment

This module is free of charge, thanks to our sponsors The City Bridge Trust, and focuses on finding out more about the steps involved in applying for work, interviewing tips and starting a role.

There is an undiscovered workforce of motivated autistic people who are having serious difficulty finding work. Our employment module has been designed to support autistic adults and young people into employment. It looks at the steps involved in applying for work, interviewing tips and starting work. We aim to allow users to create a personalised profile, which they can then use when attending interviews or starting work. Module outcomes

- Identify your autism profile
- Build your personalised CV and cover letter
- Disclosure document
- A reasonable adjustments request form

## **Resources**

# **England**

<u>Finished at school guide</u> – Ambitious about Autism <u>Preparing for adulthood</u>