



Dumfries Academy Cluster

Primary/Secondary Transition



WHAT IS TRANSITION?

Dumfries Academy P7 Transition

Dumfries Academy Cluster is made up of six schools listed below:

Dumfries Academy	Laurieknowe Primary School
Loreburn Primary School	New Abbey Primary School
St Michael's Primary School	Troqueer Primary School

Aims of Transition

The aims of the transition programme are:

- *To enable pupils to feel more confident about the transition from Primary to Secondary school.*
- *To familiarise pupils with the secondary school campus and the structure of the secondary timetable.*
- *To help make transitions in learning smoother so that pupils build on prior learning and experiences across the curriculum.*
- *To develop and share expertise amongst teaching staff from both sectors to improve learning and teaching and ensure that transition is a smooth process*
- *Identify young people who would benefit from enhanced transition and targeted interventions. Examples would be Enhanced Transition, Nurture transition, ASL provision etc.*

On-going Cluster Work

Many connections are made between Dumfries Academy and its cluster primaries, both formally and informally, and you may find that staff and pupils from both sectors have been involved in supporting the cluster working earlier than P6 /P7. Some examples are:

- *Academy pupils supporting cluster primaries on their sports' days and events.*
- *Cluster Primary pupils taking part in Academy events*
- *P7 Teachers shadowing previous P7 young People for a day At Dumfries Academy*
- *Academy Teachers delivering lessons/sessions at cluster primaries.*
- *Teachers from both sectors agreeing on how the curriculum is planned and coming to an agreement on what standards of performance are expected from pupils.*
- *P7 Teachers agreeing on common curriculum in some areas.*



FOCUS FOR TRANSITION

Cluster Focus

The structure of transition in terms of support for pupils in the cluster remains broadly the same each year and culminates in three whole days in June where P7 pupils attend Dumfries Academy to experience a normal secondary school timetable prior to starting in August. However, the way in which we plan to support transition in the curriculum can vary depending on the staff we have available and the needs of the cohort moving from primary to secondary that year.

Our transition will focus on:

- Early intervention for enhanced and non-enhanced transition
- Establishing times when cluster schools can attend Dumfries Academy, as a cohort, to participate in transition events prior to Induction days.
- Wider curricular experience for transition events to include more subjects.
- Experiences of the wider school day (interval and lunchtime, as opposed to just class times). Developing experience of getting to and from school.
- Developing cluster criteria to access Enhanced Transition.
- Identification of Nurture cohort prior to induction days.

We also have supported transition arrangements for pupils who have identified additional learning/support needs, and this is coordinated by our Additional Needs Team and the Supporting Learners Service in communication with P7 teachers. Our Additional Support staff from Dumfries Academy have a tailored programme in place for young people requiring enhanced transition.



CALENDAR OF KEY DATES

Term 1

- September- P7 Transition session at Dumfries Academy (focus TBC)
- Pre October Holidays (Term 1) - P6 Transition session at own school
- Term 1- P5/6/7 Open Evening at Dumfries Academy
- S1 Q&A session – Focus 1
- Nurture – Initial whole cohort input – What is nurture?
- Term 1- Enhanced Transition identified

Term 2

- November – P7 1 x session in primaries
- Nov/Dec - P6 1 x session at Dumfries Academy
- S1 Q&A session – focus 2
- Enhanced Transition – consistent person to visit primaries in class (LA/ASLT) x 2-3 visits

Term 3

- P7 2 x cluster events
- P6 1 x visit to Dumfries Academy
- P5 1 x visit to primary
- S1 Q&A session – Focus 3
- Enhanced transition – 3.1 another visit to primary. 3.2 pupils to have an initial visit to Dumfries Academy

Term 4

- P7 1 x sessions at Dumfries Academy – full/half day – experience arriving/leaving school, transition in between classes - primary class teachers supporting
- P7 Induction Days
- P6 3 x session. 2 x Academy. 1 x primary session
- P5/6 parent event – towards end of term – may need to be earlier – depending on P6/7 choosing
- P5 1 x session in primaries
- S1 Q&A session – Focus 4



CALENDAR OF KEY DATES

Enhanced transitions – 2 x visits with ASL Team: one morning and one afternoon to include social times, school arrival and end of day. PTPS, Nurture, safe spaces and places, class transitions. Access individuals' needs and decide if an additional visit is needed. First visit before study leave to build confidence, familiarisation with building and places before peers.

Ongoing

- S6 run events throughout the year – social dance
- S5/S6 Nurture mentors to visit/support events in primaries



Enjoying Learning in Home Economics on P7 Induction Days

