



Parent Tip Sheet 2. Transition from Primary to Secondary School

While moving from primary to secondary school can be an exciting time for young people and their parents, it can also be a bit daunting.

The more informed and involved you are in your child's preparation, the more likely the transition will be positive.

From day one your child will experience many changes, each of which brings questions and new things to do:

- More subjects
- More homework
- More challenging school work
- The responsibility to get to classes in different rooms on time
- The need to manage themselves, their learning and equipment
- Using lockers and carrying books between classes
- Adapting to different teaching styles
- Having no 'home' classroom although many schools have a base for Year 7 students.

With the help of family and school staff, students usually adapt quickly to their new environment.

Handy hint

Some students fear they will lose many of their old friends when they start secondary school. Encourage your child to keep in touch with their primary school friends.

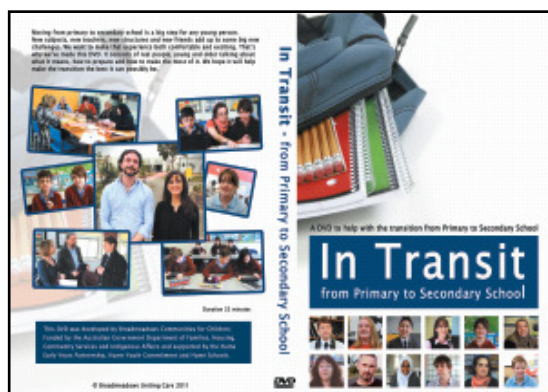
Most secondary schools work with primary schools to make transition easier. A school's transition program may include:

- Secondary students visiting their former primary school to talk about their experiences
- A buddy system where students new to the school are paired up with older students already at the school. These older students can answer questions and help the new students adjust to secondary school life
- Secondary school teachers visiting primary schools to talk about what to expect at secondary school
- Year 6 visits to secondary school.

A resource for Parents and Students

In Transit from Primary to Secondary School DVD is a resource developed to assist parents and students in making a smooth transition from Year 6 to 7.

A copy of the *In Transit* DVD can be obtained from your local primary or secondary school with subtitles in Arabic, Turkish and Assyrian.



This Parent Tip Sheet was developed by the Hume Whittlesea LLEN and is a summary of *Welcome to Secondary School – A Parent's Guide to Victorian Government Secondary Schools* developed by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development. A copy of the Parent handbook can be obtained from <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/publications/newsinfo/secondaryschool.htm> in English, Arabic, Turkish, Vietnamese and Chinese.