

Transition Reimagined

At Sandbach School we aim to develop a love of learning, promote ambition, help students to thrive and realise their potential as a Sandbachian. To achieve this, we have reimagined our transition process. Here transition is not an initial few days designed to allow students to function within the school, but a detailed process forming the foundations upon which all of this can be built.

Bootcamp and start of Year 7 curriculum

The first 3 days within school, students are immersed in our culture and expectations through a detailed study of our ethos: **Ready, Respectful, Safe**. This 'bootcamp' adds value to simple yet vital aspects of school life and breaks down the overwhelming concept of secondary school, into simple, achievable goals. Following Bootcamp, students study a 2 week programme 'Sandbach and the surrounding area' which introduces students to their Year 7 curriculum.

Tutor Group Teaching

By spending this extended transition time with their Year 7 tutors, students are also able to develop their relationship with them, ensuring they feel valued and supported. Tutors use this time to develop an understanding of individual students' character, learning and emotional needs, information that is shared with all Year 7 teachers before students move onto a full timetable.

Time to develop culture within our environment

A huge focus of our transition time is dedicated to promoting a calm and mature culture within the Year 7 environment. Lesson changeovers are smooth and quiet, classroom doors on the year 7 corridor are all open ensuring quiet productive classrooms and movement on the year 7 corridor is silent.

Year 7 Teaching Team

The Year 7 form tutor team make up most of the Year 7 teaching staff creating a familiar group of teachers for our students who can focus on the needs within Year 7. Many of our subject teachers teach the whole of year 7, giving them the best possible opportunity to shape our curriculum around our students.

Year 7 Environment – 'A school within a school'

A complete section of our school is dedicated solely to Year 7 students which has many benefits. Students are not overwhelmed by navigating our whole school grounds, our learning environments can be tailored specifically for Year 7 student learning, and pastoral support can be focused and available when needed. Within this Year 7 'school', students can still access all the curriculum specific resources required, such as art rooms and science labs and will access the specialist music, drama and PE facilities - 'the best of both worlds'.