



WELSHPOOL HIGH SCHOOL

TRANSITION POLICY

DATE REVIEWED; May 2022

DATE FOR REVIEW; May 2025

SIGNED _____ Date: _____
Chair of Governing Body

SIGNED _____ Date: _____
Headteacher



Welshpool Cluster Schools Transition Plan 2022-2024

Welshpool High School and Berriew CP School.

This plan includes the following schools in co-operation with Welshpool High School:

- Arddleen C.P.
- Berriew C.P.
- Buttington – Trewern C.P.
- Churchstoke C.P
- Forden C.P.
- Guilsfield C.P.
- Leighton C.P.
- Llandysilio C.I.W. Primary
- Montgomery C.I.W Primary
- Welshpool C.I.W Primary

Welshpool High School also welcomes learners from other primary schools and is dedicated to supporting their transition to the school.

This plan is an agreement between Welshpool High School and the Welshpool Cluster Schools. Other primary schools may be involved if learners are transferring from outside the cluster. In this case the transition co-ordinator will liaise with these schools individually.

Its purpose is to support further improvement in transition practice so that learners are better prepared socially and academically for the move to the high school. It ensures that their high school experience builds upon the good practice that they have experienced in the primary school, enabling them to make good progress at year 7 and through the relevant progression steps.

Management and Co-ordination of Transition

Welshpool High School

Overall organisational responsibility will rest with the Senior Management Team.

Direct contact and practical arrangements with the primary school will be led by:

Transition Coordinator – Natalie Forsyth

Head of Year 7 – R Aldridge 2022-23

ALNCO – Joanne Baines

The governor with responsibility for Transition – Brendan McWhinnie.

Primary School

Overall organisational responsibility will rest with the Headteacher. Direct contact and practical arrangements with the High School will be led by:

Head teacher -

Year 6 teacher –

The governor responsibility for transition –

Transition Visits

Dates for transition visits by learners and parents/carers of learners in Year 6 will be agreed between both establishments by the beginning of term of the visit;

A transition calendar outlining a number of activities taking place throughout the year for both Y5 and Y6 learners is shared with and agreed by the cluster during the summer term for the following academic year (see appendix).

Dates for the transition days for Year 6 learners to visit the High School in the summer term will be agreed between both establishments in the previous autumn term. The usual dates for the transition days are the first Monday and Tuesday in July.

Information regarding these events will be distributed by the primary school following agreement of these dates.

The transition days will follow the format outlined below

On the Monday the learners will follow a normal timetabled day, learners will experience 5 lessons, chosen from Science, P.E., French, Welsh, Art, Geography and IT plus one period with their new form teacher. These subjects are chosen in order that the learners experience learning in a specialized subject area.

The second of the induction days is a creative day split into three units which will usually be chosen from:

- Team building-Welsh Bacalaureate Sixth Form group
- Expressive Arts
- Languages, Literacy and Communication
- PHSE themed work.

Prior to these sessions, parents and carers of Y6 learners will be asked to return permission slips to WHS to indicate that Parents and learners are aware of and agree with our acceptable use policy.

The transition coordinator will arrange for learners to travel to the High School by school transport on these days.

Admission Arrangements

Information regarding arrangements for transition from Primary to High Schools, application forms for places and for transport from Powys LEA will be distributed via e-mail from the LEA by the primary schools to all parents/carers of relevant learners in the Autumn Term. Places for the High School will be allocated in the Spring Term by the LEA admissions officer. In the circumstance of over-subscription of places then parents/carers will be made aware of the need to appeal as outlined in the LEA admissions booklet.

Once places have been allocated, parents will receive a form via e-mail from Welshpool High School on which to complete learners' personal information so that the pastoral/social grouping process can begin.

Pastoral Links to Meet Learners' Personal and Social Needs

The Transition Coordinator will **organize an assembly, held at WHS** in the Autumn Term to speak to year 5 and 6 learners in order to invite them to the open evening and to complete a question and answer session about life in Welshpool High School. **There is a further visit in the Spring Term** with year 6 learners, and then a primary site visit focused on those learners who have gained places, offering them a chance to prepare for the induction days and respond to their concerns and views regarding transition to year 7, **following the completion of a transition questionnaire (link here:)**

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=Ug4_TzS3ZEGUCRtgHRR5k7MyEz6cXxxOusyTtUFsJX9UQIZERERMUjRYNUPEUVdHQ1Q0U0IBSUxRSy4u

During this Summer visit there is also a meeting with the year 6 teacher where important information regarding pastoral, ALN and more able and talented and academic issues can be shared. Y6 teachers will be offered a form to complete which will be pre-populated with headings such as mat, attendance, TA levels, seal etc, although for schools with smaller cohorts this can be done during the meeting. Schools should also provide information of safeguarding, medical plans etc, which will be transferred to WHS with the learners.

Additional arrangements are made for identified vulnerable learners, for targeted support offered by the ALNCo, xenzone, youth workers, school nurse, young carers or YIS. An opportunity is given to these learners and their parents to come to the high school prior to induction days, and also to receive visits and additional support as necessary in their own setting from high school staff. For learners with significant behavioural and/or educational needs, WHS will be invited to any relevant meetings, and to start transition dialogue, from Year 5.

If appropriate some learners will also be referred by their primary school (or WHS if transferring from outside Powys) to any available support programme for transition, e.g. the 'Moving Up' programme, or equivalent, organized by YIS, which takes place on the WHS site during the summer holidays. This helps to prepare learners for the transfer over a course of 3 or 4 sessions.

Sharing Information About Learners' Achievements and Attainment, Attendance and Behaviour

Teacher assessment and progression information in the core subjects will be passed electronically to the High School by May half-term of each year.

Beyond the basic TA information above, we agree that the following information will also be passed from the Primary/Junior School to the High School:

- IEPs
- Safeguarding
- Code of Practice stage
- Details of statement
- Final Statement review details
- Medical information

- Year 4 CATs
- Literacy and Numeracy test results
- One page profiles
- Any further pastoral information deemed necessary
- Details of learners with particular talents who may require access to enhanced provision, i.e. learners on the more-able and talented register.

The High School has identified Natalie Forsyth as having the responsibility of receiving and disseminating the information to the relevant teachers.

The Primary School Headteacher is responsible for collating and sending the TA information to the High School.

Teachers in the High School will receive learner information regarding the classes that they will teach in the following year by the end of the Summer term.

Information on attendance and behaviour will be shared at the time of the transition coordinator visit in the Summer term.

Communicating the Learning Needs of Individual Learners

Information regarding learners at risk of under attaining, ~~i.e. low level 4~~, or learners with a mixed profile in any of the core subjects or AoLE, will be passed to the High School. Responsibility in receiving and disseminating this information rests with Natalie Forsyth/ALNCo.

Information regarding the learning needs of individual learners will be passed on directly to the ALNCo at the Summer term visit or passed onto the ALNCo by the transition coordinator immediately after that visit e.g.:

- Those for whom English/Welsh is a second language.
- ALN – More able and talented learners
- ALN – Learners at risk of underachieving.
- Learners whose behaviour puts them at risk of underachieving
- Learners will also be proposed for the SEAL (Social Emotional Aspect of Learning) group, for learners who may not be able to cope with the full curriculum in larger groups or would find transition difficult, or for those who would benefit from ELSA support.

Learners with disabilities will have access to further special transition arrangements, i.e. extra individual induction visits to the High School.

Joint Planning to Address National and Local Priorities

Agreed priority areas for this transition plan are:

- Curriculum for Wales 2022; transition activities should provide context for the associated experiences knowledge and skills relevant to the new areas of

learning and experience. Cluster Headteachers, and WHS staff (in particular core subjects) will seek opportunities to involve Year 6 learners in activities held on WHS site, and opportunities for their learners to work with high school staff. Activities currently include:

-Science and Technology: Transition event, 'Cell', delivered by Impelo (formerly Powys Dance), takes place in March. Cluster to also source engineering event from local businesses such as Invertek Drives where applicable. School visits from WHS science specialist.

-Maths and Numeracy: WHS' Numeracy Co-ordinator, Katie Pointer, is available to co-ordinate extra maths sessions for MAT learners in KS2-primaries can contact her directly on katie.pointer@welshpool-hs.powys.sch.uk

-LLC: Learners will write a descriptive piece of writing entitled 'All About Me' either on paper or uploaded onto J2e in order that all WHS staff can access it. This English work ensures all KS2 learners have an outline of a one page profile on entry to high school, helping to inform KS3 staff of any particular areas of strength or weakness. In 2022 MAT Writing workshops take place in WHS, involving learners from Y6 and Y7.

-Health and Wellbeing: 5x60, Sport Powys– Year 6 learners take part in transition sport activities supported by 6th form learners who have gained their Community and Sports leadership awards.

-Expressive Arts: Primary learners are invited to the bi-annual WHS school productions, and are also invited to take part in workshops leading up to the summer concerts, as well as the concerts themselves.

Financial constraints and uncertainty of SEG funding and have curtailed advance planning over what is predicted to be a difficult period. The focus will be on the above developments, and asking businesses in the local community to provide experiences for STEM.

Cluster Headteacher Meetings

Discussions between WHS and primary staff take place on a half termly basis around safeguarding, transition, good practice and joint training opportunities, thus fostering the development of key areas via PLC's where appropriate.

Evaluation of the Impact of the Plan

The transition coordinators: Natalie Forsyth, working with cluster Head Teachers, will review at the end of the working period of the plan.