

A GUIDE TO MOVING SCHOOLS SUCCESSFULLY

Moving school is a big change for your child and family, but sometimes it is inevitable. We look at how to make the move successfully, minimising the disruption to your child's education.

Why Move your Child to a New School?

Whether you are moving home and to a new area, or taking advantage of a new school opening; there are many practical and emotional reasons why moving schools is a consideration. Sometimes a child has finished their time at a nursery or pre-school, or perhaps circumstances have changed and you are looking for private schooling.

Unfortunately, unresolved bullying is one of the most common reasons that children transfer to a new school. If this is the case, discuss the matter with the new school and read their relevant policies, including the antibullying policy.

Sometimes parents feel their current school simply isn't meeting their child's needs; perhaps academically, socially or emotionally – and may feel a new school would be better for their child or children.



Moving with Success

For whichever reasons you are considering a move, involve your child with the decision-making process and give them time to discuss their opinions. Talking to them as early as possible will make them feel more prepared for the transition. Ask the new school if they have any transition or taster days that your child could attend. Here are some topics for discussion with your child and family:

- Check the new school's admissions process and if they have a place available in the correct year group.
- If moving for reasons including issues at your current school, have you endeavoured to resolve these?
- What can the new school offer? Any new opportunities?
- Listen to and address any concerns or worries your child may have.
- Discuss the positives and focus on what they are looking forward to.
- Remind them it is natural to feel different feelings at the same time, you can be happy and sad.

Important Considerations

Consider how the move will work for your whole family. Thinking about pros and cons are always helpful in any decision-making process. Children can be affected by a big move, however this can be in a very positive way.

Positive Benefits of Children Moving Schools

While there are difficult considerations to be made, sometimes the positive benefits outweigh the negative ones:

- New friendships formed
- New opportunities (extracurricular, subjects, learning methods)
- Happier children = successful children
- Better academic results
- Helps children adapt to change (an important life-skill)