TRANSITION TO HIGH SCHOOL

Most of our students find change extremely difficult and the transition to a high school setting particularly difficult. Consequently, preparation for and transition to high school is a particular focus for Year 6 students.

- The high school setting to which our Year 6 students will be going is identified in Term 2.
- A comprehensive report on each Year 6 student is completed by the beginning of Term 3.
- The appropriate officer at the appropriate Area office receives these reports.
- Visits to high schools are arranged for Term 3.
- Applications for mainstream high schools are the responsibility of the home school wherever possible. Fowler Road prepares applications for special placement in consultation with parents/carers.
- A meeting with the high school counsellor and executive about the special needs of the student takes place before the end of Term 3 or early Term 4. Paperwork for integration/support funding is given to the high school as well as ILPs including risk management plans.
- A high school transition process is identified for each Year 6 student by the beginning of Term 4. This process could involve visits to the high school, participation in some periods at the high school, developing work activities based on the work students will be doing at high school.
- Year 6 students are involved in a visit from high school staff to discuss expectations and any concerns the students may have about going to high school.
- Year 6 students need to be involved in any program developed by their home primary school concerning transition to high school.
- Where possible, Year 6 students visit their intended high school in Term 4 for an initial, individual introduction.
- Year 6 students participate in teaching/learning activities focusing on life at high school, including materials needed for high school, reading timetables in Term 4.
- Specific teaching/learning activities are based on the handbooks from the intended high school in Term 4.
- Year 6 students attend the Orientation Day for their intended high school accompanied by a parent/carer or Fowler Road staff member, where appropriate.
- Where appropriate, students are assisted in purchasing school uniform requirements for high school so that they can begin high school looking appropriate.
- Some students will need initial support into high school. The pattern of attendance and support given needs to take into account the different culture of high schools, for example, attending full days, attending periods of one subject across the week.
- Specific academic support may be needed for students in high school, for example, doing structured overviews of topics/texts and teaching them before the student participates in them at high school.