

# Drumbeat Outreach Transition Policy

## Introduction

Transition is defined as change in the focus of attention from one activity, environment or situation to another. Children, young people and students with autism can have challenges with their communication, social interaction, flexibility of thought and sensory processing/motors skills. All change can be stressful for pupils if not carefully managed according to their individual needs.

Throughout life there are many changes that involve transitions. These transitions can be minor or major in rules, routines, boundaries, procedures, people and settings.

## Aims and objectives

### Drumbeat Outreach Service aims to:

- support schools, families, young people and the community around the child to understand the importance of planning and preparing for all transitions
- Support the use of appropriate and effective strategies to help transition.
- Support the key people create a transition package that is personalised to meet the needs of each individual
- Support pupils with transitions to facilitate independence by using symbols, social stories™ and other visual strategies.
- Support the key people around the young person to have the skills, knowledge and understanding to facilitate transitions.
- Ensure that the young person's voice is heard, recorded and respected.

## **Key Transitions for Children and Young People with ASD**

- From home to Nursery School
- Between year groups and key stages including exam preparation
- From school to school
- From school to college, further education, higher education adult services and work

### **Personal life transitions**

- Puberty and adolescence
- bereavement
- divorce and relationship break-ups
- moving house
- job to job

### **Daily Transitions:**

- Home to school to home
- Session to session
- Task to task and activities within a task
- Movement around the building
- Movement between structured to unstructured times
- Changes of routines (temporary and permanent)
- Changes to staff (temporary and permanent)

### **Strategies to support successful transitions**

Drumbeat Outreach aim to advise the student and all key people around the student on strategies that support carefully planned transitions using a range of appropriate methods to accommodate the individual needs of the student.

## **Daily Transition Strategies:**

- Visual or written time tables
- Mini/portable timetables
- Symbols, photos and objects of reference
- Social Stories <sup>™</sup>
- Musical Cues
- Sign Language
- TEACCH Approach
- Timers & countdowns
- Now & Next. Now, Next and Then
- Concept of 'Finished'
- Motivators and reward
- Choice boards
- Labelling
- Applaud, acknowledge achievement and success

## **Transitions between schools and key stages:**

- Transition Planning meeting to include the child (where appropriate) and all key people around the child
- All About Me book & Passport Book
- Book/pamphlet about the setting and the people
- Planned visits
- Liaison with all the key people around the child
- Sharing good practice and what works well
- Transition Checklist
- Pre and post transition observations
- Maps and journey planning
- Travel Training
- Risk assessments for difficult transitions.

## **Transition from school to young adult life.**

- Transition reviews where professionals identify the most appropriate routes and support systems that are required for the student to reach outcomes they have identified
- Sign posting
- Curriculums that links with local colleges and local enterprises

## **Life Transitions**

- Support and training in adolescence and issue sin puberty
- Parent Workshops and Courses
- Continued Professional Development for key staff and external agencies.

**More information can be found in DFES SEND Document.**