The Fallibroome Academy

Key Questions

Primary to Secondary Transfer for Pupils with Special Educational Needs

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Primary to Secondary Transfer for Pupils with Special Educational Needs

We spoke to a number of parents across the Trust who have children with additional needs and have been through or are going through the process of transition. These are some of the Frequently Asked Questions they have asked or said they would find it useful to know about in advance of a visit.

Will my child get the same amount of support in terms of hours / 1:1?

For students who are entitled to hours of support, they will have access to this through them being allocated a TA supported form. We have experienced transition TAs who stay with year 7 through the year to ensure consistency for students ensuring that students get their allocated support in the classroom. Depending on the needs of a student identified during the transition process we can also support a student through our Inclusion and Pastoral teams in addition to their TA support.

My child has an EHCP – how will that look at high school?

See above - we will work with each of the primary schools to make every effort to replicate the current provision that is in place and continues into high school. This will be discussed at a students annual review meeting in year 6 and ideally in year 5. Mainstream, secondary settings are different and are much bigger in size, routines are different and we will make the necessary reasonable adjustments possible.

How are classes organised in terms of ability setting?

In year 7, students are only setted in Maths and PE. All other subjects are taught in forms (tutor groups) as mixed ability groups.

What pastoral support is available for children struggling socially / emotionally?

Our pastoral and inclusion support is in place to do exactly this. This can include students who need some to talk to, to regulate their emotions, to report an issue that they have seen or to to talk to someone about whatever they need to. Students will all have a form tutor, someone they will see every morning and build a strong relationship with over the 5 years they are at high school. Each student will also have a Head of Year who is responsible for students well-being. In addition to this, we have our pastoral and inclusion teams who can support students out of the classroom and be a key link between the student and home. We also have a school counsellor who is full time. We will as part of the transition work with each primary school to identify what support a student might need and try to work proactively with the student and parents to make sure that when September comes, all worries are answered.

What support is there for organisation / navigating the timetable and getting to different classes?

Each student will have a number of transition days to allow them to become familiar with the school site. On the first day in September year 7 students will come into school before the other year groups and have a full tour of their first day, with their form tutors and some of our Student Leaders. We also provide students with a planner, which has a school map in. For the first half term we are flexible with students getting lost so try our best to support this.

Accessibility of school / classes for children with physical needs? What adaptations to the day can be made to support my child to access the lessons (e.g. stairs)?

We have lifts in each of the school buildings so all students can access all classrooms and all school buildings. We also operate a one way system around the school site.

Do they have to access all the lessons or is there some flexibility around the curriculum?

All students will access the full school curriculum.

Who do I contact if my child has an issue around their special educational needs an how?

The school SENCO is Matt Dale who can be contacted on:
senco@fallibroome.org.uk

What kind of communication is there around my child's needs with all the subject teachers. How will they know about her/him and how will they know what to put in place?

We have an Inclusion Register at school that has the details of students and their specific needs. This is accessible to all teaching and support staff. This has the details of any adjustments that staff might need to make and also has identified QFT strategies to support a student in the classroom. This information is gathered during the transition process in year 6.

What happens if you don't keep up with or can't do their homework at home?

We offer a supported homework club at lunchtime and after school - students are encouraged to attend this. We also encourage parents and students to keep in contact with teachers, form tutors and heads of year if this becomes an issue so we can make reasonable adjustments to the homework set and how this is accessed for students in school and at home.

How are Special Educational Needs taken into consideration within the behaviour policy?

We make reasonable adjustments to both the policy and also the sanctions that are in the policy. This starts in the classroom and can include both pastoral and inclusion wrap around support for the students - this very much depends on the individual needs of the student.

How is the day organised in terms of timetabling?

A day in the life of a Year 7 student can be found in the school prospectus. The transition website is also a good place to start as this provides links to what the school uniform is and there is also a virtual tour of the school site on there.
fallibroome.academy/starting-year-7-at-the-fallibroome-academy/

What about unstructured times like breaktimes? Is there a hub or somewhere alternative they can go?

There isn't a specific 'HUB' for students to go to, but we can find a suitable safe space. This can be decided when the student arrives or during one of the school transition days.

My child struggles with loud busy spaces like dinner halls? What adaptations can be made to support this?

Students don't have to access the dinner hall, students can bring a packed lunch and find a quiet space, this may include the pond area or playground area.

What reasonable adjustments can be made to make to uniform to support my child?

This can be discussed with Mr Dale or Mr Smalley ahead of September. We can issue a student with a uniform exemption card.

Further Information

You can find more information on the school website in the SEN pages, but you can always contact Mr Matthew Dale (SENDCo - senco@fallibroome.org.uk) if you have further specific questions. School contact details can be found on the back cover of this booklet.

Web page:
https://fallibroome.academy/special-educational-needs-and-disabilities-send/

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