

Compass Points: responses from P7 Challenge Day, 9 October 2019

<p>N is for needs</p> <p>“what do you feel that you might need to help with your transition?”</p>	
<p>Confidence / more confidence To work harder Positivity A chance to make friends / to make new friends from other schools I need to focus on my work To ask for help, my sister, teacher, friends, map To keep a timetable so I know where to go Need a tour so I know the school better Transition days Support Dyslexia friendly Good transport Courage Responsibility Kindness Prepared More social Need to learn Growth mindset A map so I do not get lost</p>	<p><i>It is interesting to read through the returns you gave on what you felt you might need to help with the move from your primary to Carrick Academy.</i></p> <p><i>Unfortunately, we cannot offer you the transition experience that we had planned, but we will make every effort to make you feel welcome when you arrive.</i></p> <p>Our Pupil Support Department supports young people with their learning and with a range of social and emotional support too. They are also very involved on leading us on our journey to achieving the Dyslexia and Inclusive Practice Award.</p> <p>We do a lot of work on growth mindset in Support for Learners in S1. You will receive a map.</p>
<p>S is for suggestions</p> <p>“what suggestions do you have for me to help you in this transition?”</p>	
<p>Show me around / give us a tour Make me feel welcome Comfort me Start with easy work then slowly push us If I’m lost where classes are / I need a map Keep me away from certain people To know where to go Help us to get us to know other pupils Do more meets at Carrick so that we know what to do and where to go To keep everything handy in my bag or hand Buddies Have teachers help when I need it Timetable Talk to people to calm them down Put all of the new S1s in the same class</p>	<p><i>I have shared your suggestions with members of staff and although we cannot act on some of the transition suggestions offered here, I will make use of these in future transition planning.</i></p> <p>As a small school community, it is even more important for us to learn to work together. This year, the new S1 year group is broken into 3 register classes and four practical classes. I am afraid it is not possible to place all new S1’s in the same class, but be assured that there will always be other students from your primary school in your class.</p> <p>You would normally be paired up with an S6 buddy, but this might not be possible straight away. Your Guidance teacher will support you through your time at Carrick Academy. There is no problem or worry that can’t be shared with them.</p>
<p>E is for excitement</p> <p>“tell me what excites you about coming to Carrick Academy?”</p>	
<p>Seeing old friends in next years S2 That I get to meet new people / new Friends Studying</p>	<p><i>It is great to read all of the things that you are excited about when coming to Carrick Academy. Can you find any that you share?</i></p>

<p>Writing</p> <p>Going to different classes instead of just the one Meeting new teachers and all the different subjects / not being in the same classroom all day / Different teachers</p> <p>New bigger school / meeting new people / to make friends and to see family members</p> <p>No more P1-6</p> <p>Out for lunch</p> <p>Me starting a fresh at Academy / Fresh start</p> <p>Competitions New strategies Computers To be doing music Expanding work Writing Everything! I am excited to see a new school / bigger school More breaks Getting to use all new textbooks Experiments Getting to pick your subjects and new classes</p> <p>More independence Having my phone Library To see all the places in it – explore New topics/ new things to do Harder English My voice and thoughts have a chance to be actions to help people in a good way PE Using a 3D printer</p>	<p>Mondays and Tuesdays have 7 periods and Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays are 6 period days.</p> <p>Ouch!</p> <p>For the foreseeable future, all pupils will remain in school for lunch.</p> <p>Yes, it can feel like a fresh start, you make of it what you want to. We want it to work for you.</p> <p>We have a number of wider achievement clubs that run through the year and a list of these are shared with learners in September.</p> <p>You begin to make choices about your subjects in S3.</p> <p>Remember to read our mobile phone policy!</p> <p>Our Junior and Senior Pupil Councils work to improve our school experience. There are lots of opportunities to take part and make a difference.</p>
<p>W is for worries <i>“what worries do you have about the move from primary to Carrick Academy?”</i></p>	
<p>How do I know where to sit at lunch?</p> <p>New Teachers / not knowing some people / that there will be different people that I don’t know</p> <p>Not knowing everything that other people know</p>	<p>As well as our catering staff, there are school assistants and teachers present in the dining hall at morning break and lunchtime so that there is always someone around to help and answer questions. You are welcome to take a seat anywhere in the dining hall.</p> <p>Yes, there will be new teachers and new pupils to get to know. This is a new experience for everyone.</p> <p>You will get to know the school set up quickly, it normally takes someone a few days.</p>

<p>In case I'm in a hurry at home and I forgot my tie or something important</p> <p>Not finding the right class in time / getting lost / go in wrong class / late for class</p> <p>Phone deducted (sic)</p> <p>Detention</p> <p>Being bullied because I am not well liked</p> <p>Making new friends / Not making friends / I am worried I wont make any new friends</p> <p>Will my friends still be my friends?</p> <p>Confidence</p> <p>I'm scared / nervous</p> <p>Tall people</p> <p>Big people</p> <p>Crowds</p> <p>The older ones</p> <p>Time Management / unprepared / handing in homework late / hard Work / that I won't do well / messing up</p> <p>When do you get your class schedule</p>	<p>We expect all pupils to wear a school tie, however, you can borrow one from Ms Climie before the start of the school day if you need to.</p> <p>There will be teaching staff and school assistants supporting you to find your way about. We will also provide you with a map of the school. If you find yourself in the wrong class, the teacher will make sure you get to where you need to be. We do this every year and we know that it will take S1 a wee bit of time to get to know the school layout.</p> <p>Mobile phones must be switched off at the start of the school day and when returning to class after morning break and lunchtime. Your mobile phone should not be used in class or between lessons. We have a mobile phone policy that pupils and staff follow.</p> <p>How do you know that you won't be well liked? We act quickly when allegations of bullying are made. It is in everyone's interest to be able to get along. It is important to let someone know if you feel that you are being bullied.</p> <p>We offer lots of opportunities, such as lunchtime clubs and events, for you to meet new people and build positive relationships.</p> <p>Why wouldn't they be?</p> <p>It is ok to feel a bit scared or nervous as these are normal feelings to have when we are about to experience something new. But, it won't be new for long and it is important to remember that everyone is feeling the same.</p> <p>All of our new pupils come from smaller primary schools and so Carrick Academy will feel big for a few days. And yes, we have big, small, tall and short people and everything in between but this isn't something to be worried about.</p> <p>Learners are given a homework diary at the start of the year and are given advice on how to use it during their weekly "Support for Learners" lesson with their Guidance teacher. This helps us organise our time and supports us to meet deadlines. Teachers will also advise you on how to organise yourself for their subject. There are also lots of support to help you manage your homework, including homework clubs and support sessions at morning break, lunchtime and after school.</p> <p>You will be issued with your timetable when you come to Carrick Academy.</p>
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