Transition arrangements for EAL learners

Many people will have a role to play in ensuring a smooth transition for children from one class or school to another. The following table lists some of the strategies and activities that can be utilised and the people responsible. Many of them are suitable for all the children and will be part of whole school transition planning but some may be more applicable for EAL learners or just one pupil who needs a little extra support.

Area	Task	EAL	Current	Receiving	Leadership
		Coordinator	teacher	teacher	team
Organisational	Carefully plan the classes that EAL children are placed in. It can be helpful to place children that speak the same language in the same class so that they can use their first language to extend their thinking during lessons.	х			х
	Class teachers should be given time to liaise about the children both before they move class and after. Timetable liaison time during the last and first half terms of the new academic year.	x	х	x	х
	Ensure that transition arrangements are in place for non-class based time such as lunchtime or assemblies. This can be a big change in routine and the children may need the changes explained and demonstrated to them especially if they are in a different playground or with new dinner supervisors.	Х			Х



	conversation as opposed to a				
	table in maths).				
	Consider general classroom				
	•				
	language used-		x	x	
	playtime/breaktime,				
	pegs/cloakroom. The child may not realise that the different				
	words have the same meaning.				
	Pass on actual resources that			x	
	have been used as new		x		
	versions may not have the				
	same visuals that the child is				
	used to. This could include				
	instruction fans, semantic				
	dictionaries, word mats etc.				
	Set a holiday task: study a book		x	х	
	over the holiday or complete a				
	diary. These tasks could be				
	started on a transition day.				
	Arrange for children to take		x	х	
	messages to their new class to				
	familiarise themselves with the				
	layout of the class and also the				
Pupil activities	new teacher.				
	Involve children in creating a				
	booklet/poster in which they				
	tell the new teacher about				
	themselves: languages they				

