

Rhyl Cluster
KS2 to KS3
Transition Policy - Transition Plan

Date: July 2024

Review Date: July 2025

Transition Plan
Regulation 7

The Governing Bodies of Rhyl High School and our feeder primary schools will jointly draw up a single Transition Plan to support transition of learners from Year 6 to Year 7. Provision for individual feeder primary schools within the plan may be different, but there will only be a single plan held by the Rhyl High School.

Our Transition Plans will be published on or before 1 September of the school year that the Transition Plan is to take effect.

The pupils to which a Transition Plan applies are those pupils who, from the beginning of the school year in which the subsequent Transition Plan takes effect, are in year 6 of each feeder primary school and expect to transfer from the feeder primary school to the secondary school in the next school year of the secondary school.

Our Transition Plan will always be in writing.

Current Feeder Schools

Our current Transition Plan represents a joint agreement between Rhyl High School and the following feeder schools:

- Ysgol Llywelyn
- Ysgol Emmanuel
- Ysgol Y Castell
- Christchurch Primary School
- Ysgol Bryn Hedydd

Guidance states that the Welsh Ministers considers that the requirement for the drawing up of transition plans should be limited to instances where there is an established and ongoing relationship between a primary school and a particular secondary school founded on the majority of the Year 6 cohort from the primary school transferring to that particular secondary school.

The definition does not transcend current admission criteria for secondary schools or determine the catchment area of a particular secondary school.

Our feeder primary school relationship will be reviewed annually to determine whether, as a result of changing patterns of learner movement, there is still a requirement for a transition plan.

Publication of Transition Plans and provision of copies

Regulation 11

(1) A Transition Plan or Statement must be made available for inspection by the schools to which it relates by the governing bodies of those schools.

(2) The governing body of the secondary school must provide a copy of the Transition Plan (or revised plan) to the local authority by which the secondary school and feeder primary schools are maintained or, if they are maintained by two or more different local authorities, to all of them.

We understand that there is a requirement for copies of Transition Plans to anyone who requests a copy.

Purpose

Transition Plans will support and improve links between Rhyl High School and feeder primary schools and have a specific focus on working together to support coherent learner progression, support the overall needs and well-being of the learner and ensure appropriate pace and challenge in a school's approach to progression when developing their curriculum and assessment arrangements from Y6-Y7. They will support transition under Curriculum for Wales.

Focus

Our Transition Plans will always support transition and learner progression within Curriculum for Wales. Transition Plans will focus on how continuity of learning will be achieved through curriculum design, planning and teaching for learning for Year 6 learners under Curriculum for Wales, and how individual learner needs, and well-being will be supported during transition.

Core content of Transition Plans

Regulation 6

Under the [2022 Transition Regulations](#) transition plans will cover the following matters:

- proposals generally for managing and co-ordinating the transition of learners from the feeder primary schools to the secondary school
- proposals generally for how continuity of learning will be achieved through curriculum design and planning for learning and teaching for learners in Year 6 transitioning to Year 7
- proposals for how each individual learner's progression will be supported as they transition from primary school to secondary school

- proposals for how the learning needs and the well-being of each individual learner will be supported as they transition from primary school to secondary school
- proposals for reviewing and monitoring the impact of the transition plan in respect of how it has helped:

- continuity of learning will be achieved through curriculum design and planning for teaching and learning for pupils in year 6 moving to year 7.
- individual pupil's progression will be supported as they transition from primary school to secondary school.
- how the learning needs and the well-being of each individual pupil will be supported as they transition from primary school to secondary school.

Review of Transition Plans

Regulation 8.

A Transition Plan must be reviewed -

(a) if a primary school ("the new primary school") becomes a feeder primary school of a secondary school which already has one or more feeder primary schools,

(b) if a primary school ceases to be a feeder primary school of a secondary school,

(c) if the curriculum of either the primary or secondary school is reviewed under section 12 of the 2021 Act,

(d) if the assessment arrangements of either the primary or secondary school made under the Education (Arrangements for Assessing in the Curriculum for Wales) Regulations 2022(1) are reviewed,

(e) if the governing bodies of all the schools concerned consider it appropriate to do so, or

(f) at the end of the period of 3 years beginning on the date on which the Transition Plan (or revised plan) was published

Purpose of a review

Regulation 9

1. The purpose of a review under regulation 8(a) is—

(a) for the governing bodies of the schools which agreed the current Transition Plan and the governing body of the new primary school to jointly consider what revisions (if any) are appropriate, and

(b) for the governing bodies to jointly agree a new Transition Plan if they think it appropriate to do so.

2. The purpose of a review under regulation 8(b) to (e) is for the governing bodies of the schools which agreed the current Transition Plan to consider—

(a) whether it is necessary or desirable to revise the Transition Plan, and

(b) if it is considered that it is necessary or desirable to revise the Transition Plan, to jointly draw up a revised or new Transition Plan.

3. In all cases the governing bodies of the schools concerned must take account of how the transition process might be better managed by the governing bodies and head teachers when carrying out a review under regulation 8.

Publication of a statement following a review

Regulation 10

1. If, following a review under regulation 8, the governing bodies decide not to revise the current Transition Plan, they must publish a statement recording that decision, giving brief reasons for it (“a Statement”).
2. The new (or revised) Transition Plan must be published as soon as reasonably practicable and no later than the beginning of the publication school year.
3. In the case of a review under regulation 8(a), the first pupils of the new primary school to which the new or revised Transition Plan applies are those pupils who, at the beginning of the school year, are in year 6 and expect to transfer to the secondary school in the following school year of the secondary school.
4. In this regulation, “Statement” has the meaning given in paragraph (1) of this regulation.

Voluntary arrangements to support and improve transition planning

The [2022 Transition Regulations](#) sets the minimum legal requirement for when formal transition plans must be drawn up. However, we acknowledge that primary schools frequently have links with a number of secondary schools where less than 50% of Year 6 learners move to the secondary school. We understand that in such instances there is no statutory requirement for a Transition Plan.

Our governing body and senior management teams in such circumstances will enter voluntary arrangements to support transition planning using the overall format provided for Transition Plans.

Similarly, where the legal requirement for a plan is removed at a future date due to the number of Year 6 learners in the primary school falling below the 50% mark, we will consider whether the planning arrangement be continued on a voluntary basis.

Transition planning and shared understanding of progression

When coming together to develop our understanding of progression, our primary and secondary school practitioners will consider not only progression at Year 6 and Year 7 but the 3 to 16 continuums as a whole. These arrangements, put in place to enable practitioners to work together at a school setting, cluster or network level to develop

that shared understanding, will support the facilitation of our voluntary arrangements required to allow practitioners to consider transition from Year 6 beyond the minimum requirement.

Disputes

Regulation 5

The [2022 Transition Regulations](#) provide for any dispute as to whether a school is a feeder primary school of a particular secondary school to be determined by the Welsh Ministers. Procedures will be put in place for such resolution of disputes.

A primary school may dispute whether they are a feeder primary school of a secondary school. In most instances, the position would be able to be clarified through reference to the information held by the schools and the local authority on the destination of learners completing Year 6. If, however, disputes cannot be resolved at a local level they should be referred to the Welsh Government's Education Department.

Legal Requirements

Full details of the Legal requirements placed on the governing bodies of Rhyl High School and feeder primary schools are in the [2022 Transition Regulations](#) and the [Requirement for the production of transition plans and guidance 2022](#). These should both be looked at alongside this policy. This guidance also sets out the circumstances where a transition plan is required, the definition of a feeder primary school for the purposes of transition planning, areas to be addressed in a Transition Plan, and the requirements for the publication and review of a Transition Plan.