

6-7 TRANSITION Policy (May 11)
for the Kincumba Learning Community Group of Schools -
Avoca Beach Public School
Copacabana Public School
Kincumber Public School
Kincumber High School
Pretty Beach Public School

RATIONALE

The development and implementation of syllabus documents within the standards framework and across stages actively encourages schools to reconsider existing procedures and provide increased structure to support students, staff and parents during transition. The purpose of this 6-7 Transition Policy/ Action Plan is to

- formalise procedures and explore ways of moving beyond the social and welfare bridges into looking at curriculum, its delivery, assessment and reporting.
- build retention by articulating expectations with parents and staff that students are involved in a 12 year journey with public education through the 6 stages of schooling.
- develop collegial relationships between the High School and its partner Public Schools and opportunities for substantive conversation between teachers in our group of schools.
- ensure that vulnerable students are identified and supported through their transition to high school and that class lists developed by the high school are informed by information from the partner primary schools.

PROPOSED TIMELINE AND PROCEDURES FOR TRANSITION

TERM 1 Focus on relationship building

- Initial transition meeting. Held week 3 at High School. Meetings to follow to be held at partner primary schools.
- Year 6 picnic day for students and teachers from all the partner primary schools on the oval at the high school. The purpose of the day is to be a non-competitive introduction to each other and a chance to access toilets and the canteen at the high school. Students from Year 9 to act as activity leaders on the day.
- Review and feedback from the English transition unit form previous years
- Participation in Premier's Sporting challenge leadership program
- Parent information evenings held at each partner primary school with students. Students from Year3 to Year 6 and parents invited.

TERM 2 Focus on school promotion with students, teachers and parents

- Transition meeting week 1
- Announcement of Year Adviser for following year by the high school and a meeting to set dates for the year ahead
- The high school develops a student road show featuring 2/3 areas in any given year (eg music / science / dance) to perform at whole school assembly in each of the partner primary schools
- Literacy GAT and students at risk workshop. Year 6 attend high school for the day
- Each partner primary school teamed up with a high school faculty (to rotate on an annual basis) to share information across Stages 3 and 4, to develop a common focus and language for a negotiated text type and to have team teaching visits in both directions.
- Develop some common activities around Aboriginal students and Five lands walk

TERM 3 Focus on continuity of learning

- Transition meeting week 1
- Visual arts workshop day developed at the high school with choice and selection forms made available through the primary schools for a limited number of spaces.
- Anti bullying Boot camp
- Continuation of faculty sharing - a high school faculty (to rotate on an annual basis) to share information across Stages 3 and 4, to develop a common focus and language for a negotiated text type and to have team teaching visits in both directions.
- Education week open day at the High School is promoted in each partner primary school
- Bi annually Kincumba Shines – creative and performing arts evening of excellence
- Introduction of common testing for year 6 students attending Kincumber HS the following year. Testing literacy and numeracy using past BST tests
- Spreadsheets developed – sharing of information on students from each primary school to assist in class creation for Year 7

TERM 4 Focus on information sharing

- Transition meeting week 1
- Year advisor and STLA from HS visit primary schools to facilitate sharing of information and review class lists - discuss vulnerable, at-risk students and pre-orientation days for at-risk or BD support students.
- Students attend High school orientation - to familiarise themselves with High School – taster lessons, timetables, maps and meet staff.
- Parent and student information evening at the High School.

- Sharing of Individual Learning Plans developed for Aboriginal students and parent meetings to ensure continuity and consistency during the transition process and run Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander pre-orientation days.
- Student leaders from high school visit year 6 classes to discuss *Coming to high school – what can they expect* to discuss bullying, myths and legends, concerns and questions.
- Literacy unit - Ad Appeal – 2010/2011 and Younique – 2011/2012. Across stage 3 and stage 4. English teachers in high school pick up unit as a common thread in beginning of year for new Year 7 students
- Evaluation of the year and planning for following year (e.g. 2010 to 2011)

Important considerations

- School Budgets need to allow for team teaching opportunities, etc to support the process. Money from the Helping Hand tied grant to support the transition action plan
- Evaluation and feedback needs to be built into each activity.
- A transition team needs to be identified in each school so that there is consistent information being generated across all schools.