

Year 6 pupils may need several opportunities to ask questions about Secondary School and settle any worries they may have. Pupils may also benefit from talking to an older pupil who has experienced Secondary School. Equally, older pupils may be able to 'dispel some of the myths' surrounding Secondary School. 'Your Views on School' is a useful template which pupils can use to ask questions of older pupils who have already transitioned to Secondary School. If good Primary-Secondary links exist, year 6 pupils can send letters to Year 7 or 8 pupils who in turn can respond prior to or during an induction day. Alternatively, older siblings of pupils could be approached.

### **Aims of the activity**

- To give pupils an opportunity to ask older pupils' opinions on Secondary School and gain further information.
- An opportunity for any pre-transition concerns to be settled.

### **Instructions for activity**

- Print the 'Your Views on School' template and ask year 6 pupils to complete the 'a bit about me' section. Tell pupils that they will soon be sending the letter to older pupils who in turn will send a letter back answering the questions.
- Pupils must first think of another three questions to ask older pupils. The letter can then be sent to Secondary School for older pupils to reply to. The Secondary School may like to send replies via letter or email or may allow pupils to answer them in person at an induction day.
- You may like to undertake this task after completing the 'Thought Bubbles' activity as children will have first had an opportunity to discuss their concerns and excitements in small groups.

### **Adapting the activity**

- Rather than completing the 'A bit about me' section, you may like to allow pupils to remain anonymous on the letters. This may be helpful in making children feel more comfortable about approaching older pupils and airing their concerns.
- Rather than sending letters to older pupils, you may like to invite a small group of Secondary School pupils to the Primary School and allow year 6 pupils to interview them using the 'Your Views on School' template. This has the benefit of providing familiar faces for pupils and they may in turn be more likely to air their concerns in small informal groups.

Your Views on School



**YOUR VIEWS ON SCHOOL**  
 You're going to have the chance to ask Secondary School pupils some questions about changing schools. First, complete the 'A bit about me' section to introduce yourself.

**A bit about me**

Name ..... Age .....

I like ..... I don't like .....

**Here are five questions that the Secondary School pupils will answer for you:**

1. Do you like your Secondary School?
2. What do you like about Secondary School?
3. What don't you like about Secondary School?
4. What was your first day in Secondary School like?
5. How are Primary and Secondary School different?

**Can you think of another three questions to ask Secondary School pupils?**

1 .....

.....

2 .....

.....

3 .....

.....