

Shetland Islands Council

Director of Children's Services: Helen Budge

Parents & Carers

Children's Services

Hayfield House Hayfield Lane Lerwick Shetland ZE1 0QD

Telephone: 01595 744000 Fax: 01595 744460

If calling please ask for James Johnston

Direct Dial: 01595 744099

Date: 27 April 2020

Our Ref: JJ/kw/S40-37/corr/20/001

Your Ref:

Dear Parent/Carer

Primary 7 Pupil Transitions

I am writing to reassure you and your child/ren that primary seven pupils across Shetland are firmly in our thoughts as we navigate the current situation and reshape their transition plans in to secondary school in August 2020.

The summer term of each school year is usually a time when pupils in primary seven participate in a range of transition activities in order to support their move to secondary school. This can often include visits to the secondary school, days in secondary schools and a range of opportunities to spend time with primary seven pupils from other schools.

The COVID-19 pandemic and the restrictions placed on the movement of people is likely to prevent much of the traditional transition programme taking place this year but I am working closely with primary and secondary head teachers to revise transition plans for children in primary seven and other children moving in to, through, and onwards from school.

A seven point action plan is being taken forward by a working group set up specifically to consider the primary seven to secondary one transition with a clear focus on providing a programme which helps build relationships between pupils and with staff ahead of the move onwards to secondary school.

In the meantime, please continue to support your child/ren engage with learning activities shared by your primary school and direct any questions you have to the Head Teacher in the first instance.

I would also like to take this opportunity to direct you

to https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/sh/digitalschoolhub/ for more information on how we are supporting parents/carers, staff and pupils during these unprecedented times.

I look forward to continuing work with primary and secondary schools over the coming weeks to support all primary seven pupils at this key transition time.

Yours sincerely,

James Johnston

Quality Improvement Officer