



Moving On Well Award

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Dear Headteacher,

Re: Introducing the Moving On Well Award – Supporting Successful Transitions into Secondary School

I am writing to introduce you to the **Moving On Well Award** - an evidence-based quality mark for Year 6 to Year 7 transition for Secondary schools.

This award gives your school the opportunity to demonstrate your transition practice and receive helpful tips on making improvements at a Bronze, Silver or Gold level. Created in collaboration with Universities, VCSE organisations and young people, the award centres on the experiences of pupils through transition and the structures which enable them to thrive academically, socially and emotionally.

Schools that take a strategic and joined-up approach to transition consistently see better outcomes in **attendance rates, early attainment, and pupil retention.**

The **Moving On Well Award** provides secondary schools with a clear, evidence-based pathway to:

- Strengthen transition strategy across key areas
- Build a more consistent and inclusive transition experience
- Identify and support at-risk pupils earlier
- Foster a smoother start to Year 7, reducing barriers to learning

Key Benefits include:

- **Improved Attendance in Year 7 and 8:** Schools that embed a structured transition approach consistently report higher attendance, as pupils feel more confident, connected, and prepared from day one.
- **Enhanced Early Attainment:** Pupils who are emotionally and socially ready for secondary school are more likely to engage positively in learning, leading to better academic outcomes in their first key stage.

- **Recognition for Excellence:** Schools undertaking the three-year accreditation process are celebrated as centres of best practice, with opportunities to share their work, gain local recognition, and strengthen their reputation as an inclusive and forward-thinking school.
- **Tailored Support & Resources:** As part of the programme, schools receive practical guidance, training, and access to tools that help refine and evaluate their transition offer year on year.

We are currently offering the award as part of a **pilot programme**, available to a small number of secondary schools at a reduced rate of **£1,495**. This includes:

- Initial self-evaluation tools and support
- Regular reviews and progress reports
- Access to transition resources and best practice materials
- Final assessment and accreditation
- Recognition and celebration of your school's commitment to effective transition

We believe that **every pupil deserves to feel ready and supported** as they begin their secondary journey—and that schools deserve recognition for the essential role they play in making that happen.

We would be delighted to meet with you to share more details about the **Moving On Well Award**, outline the commitment involved, and explore how this could complement the work you are already doing to support pupils joining your school.

Please find an Introduction Pack following this letter.

Thank you for your time and for your continued dedication to improving outcomes for young people.

Kind regards,



Beth Myring
Chief Executive Officer



Moving On Well Award

Introduction Pack

Included in this pack:

- An Introduction to the Moving On Well Award pillars
- A sample of our Indicators of Excellence with Bronze, Silver and Gold level examples
- An action plan template
- The award process

Five pillars of the Moving On Well Award

The Moving On Well Award is structured around five core pillars. The Members Area of the website provides guidance, top tips, best-practice examples, indicators of excellence, and access to complete your self-evaluation across all five objectives.

1 Commitment

Put the right team in place and position yourself to impact your whole school with the Moving On Well Award

2 Information Sharing

Demonstrating your school receives and disseminates the information needed for effective transition

3 Emotional & Social

Demonstrating your school provides a hospitable environment where children and young people thrive socially and emotionally

4 Teaching & Learning

Demonstrating your school maximises opportunities for teaching and learning throughout transition

5 Independent Learners

Demonstrating your school develops independent learning skills in your pupils right from the start

To access Objective 1: Commitment, your school simply needs to sign up and create an account. You can then begin your Moving On Well journey by completing a straightforward self-evaluation, which will generate your initial Action Plan.

Once your Moving On Well Agreement has been signed and payment has been received, you will gain access to Objectives 2–5 and full access to all our resources including a MOW advisor.



OBJECTIVE 3: SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL

Demonstrating your school provides a hospitable environment where children and young people thrive socially and emotionally

The transition from Primary school to Secondary school, is a critical time for children, which can be conceptualized as a dynamic and ongoing process of psychological, social and educational adaptation over time due to changes in context, interpersonal relationships and identity. Because of this Primary-Secondary school transition can be a 'window of opportunity' for growth and learning: children can expand their social network building relationships with a larger group of peers; develop their learning by being exposed to new teaching styles; and develop coping skills and problem-solving skills, through adapting to change. Primary-secondary school transition, however, can also be a time of threat, and 68% of children report difficulties coping with peer and school concerns, which is unsurprising, due to the simultaneous changes children negotiate, that can be significantly emotionally demanding. We want young people to make the most of their transition period and view it as a positive new phase of their lives.

Indicators of Excellence

INDICATOR 1

School provides pupils with the opportunity to become confident in the new environment

INDICATOR 2

School provides a warm, adaptive and hospitable environment to pupils

INDICATOR 3

School supports the forming of positive relationships for Year 7 with peers and staff

INDICATOR 4

School partners with parents to enable Year 7s to settle in their new environment

INDICATOR 5

School prioritises pupil voice in Year 7

INDICATOR 6

School adapts its approach to pupils with additional needs



OBJECTIVE 3: SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL

Demonstrating your school provides a hospitable environment where children and young people thrive socially and emotionally

INDICATOR 1

School provides pupils with the opportunity to become confident in the new environment



Bronze Level

School hosts Year 6 induction days for pupils with clear purpose and outcomes

School structures a day which introduces Year 6's to their new environment recognising the impact of the larger physical setting, initial reduced social connection and new exciting learning opportunities on arrival

Suggested evidence includes: Induction Day dates with timetable which supports social and emotional issues at transition



Silver Level

School recommends and supports transition information workshops for Year 6s in Primary school which inform coping skills

School encourages Primaries to use Year 6 lessons (examples available in the resources area) to ready their pupils for the next phase and provides representation from the Secondary School by a visit.

Pupils are invited to attend events at Secondary School in Year 4 and 5

School encourages Primary schools to bring their pupils to attend a range of activities on their site during Year 4 and 5 (drama/music performances, sporting events, STEM lessons)

Suggested evidence includes: Dates of sessions (workshops/assemblies/pupil leaflets), Dates of events/calendar, Transition Policy




Gold Level

School offers summer activities on the school site to Yr 6 Pupils during the summer holiday prior to their start in September

School visits offered to Primary Schools with an intake to school of more than 10%, in Year 4 and 5.

Suggested evidence includes: Meeting Dates, Transition Policy, Summer activities timetable



 Moving On Well Award	School:	
	Transition Coordinator:	
	Date of Completion	

Objective 1			
Commitment	RAG	Evidence	Next steps
1.1 Moving On Well Coordinator and working group is in place			
1.2 Moving On Well Award statement is signed and uploaded			
1.3 Moving On Well Award is publicised across school and to external partners			
1.4 Moving On Well Award is included in the School Improvement Plan			

Objective 2			
Information Sharing	RAG	Evidence	Next steps
2.1 Clear communication for pupil information transfer. Pupil information cascaded to relevant staff.			
2.2 Information sharing meetings take place with Secondary and Primary transition leads.			
2.3 Transition information and key dates are shared with pupils and parents, and are easily accessible on Secondary school website			

Objective 3			
Social & Emotional	RAG	Evidence	Next Steps
3.1 Secondary school Year 6 induction days for pupils with clear purpose and outcomes.			
3.2 School provides a warm, adaptive and hospitable environment to Year 7			
3.3 School supports the forming of positive relationships for Year 7 with peers and staff			
3.4 Parents and pupils are well informed about school choices pre-Secondary school application process.			
3.5 School prioritises pupil voice in Year 7			
3.6 School adapts its approach to pupils with additional needs			

Objective 4			
Teaching & Learning	RAG	Evidence	Next Steps
4.1 School demonstrates an awareness of the differences between Primary and Secondary pedagogy			
4.2 School empowers pupils on expected language and style differences			
4.3 School provides high-quality information to parents to support pupils through change in pedagogy and curriculum			
4.4 School is inviting partnerships with Primary schools on curriculum continuity			

Objective 5			
Independent Learners	RAG	Evidence	Next Steps
5.1 School enables pupils to know and understand how they learn best			
5.2 School empowers pupils with skills to be professional learners			
5.3 School provides opportunities for pupils to develop their skills in a wide range of areas			
5.4 School has an adaptive and incremental approach to home learning in Year 7			
5.5 School has embedded, responsive pupil voice structures from Year 7			



Moving On Well Award

HOW IT WORKS THE PROCESS FOR SCHOOLS

Sign up

Schools can register on the website to create a MOW Award account. After signing up, you'll have immediate access to Objective 1 to begin your school's Moving On Well journey.

Self- Assessment

Upload a signed Agreement and complete the Survey. This initial Self-Assessment will establish a clear starting point for your next steps.

Working Toward Status

Once payment is received, you will be paired with a MOW Advisor and provided with a personalised Action Plan to guide your next steps. You will also receive full access to the MOW Members Area, including all available resources.

Implementation

Your school now has 12-15 months to review your transition practice, implement your action plan and ensure your evidence is in place for Bronze, Silver or Gold award level. You will receive support throughout from your Moving On Well Advisor and access resources from the members area of the website.



School Visit

Your MOW Advisor will visit you in school to review your progress on the action plan and your evidence for Bronze, Silver or Gold Award level. This visit enables the award to be time efficient without large numbers of documents to gather or upload.

Panel Review

Our independent panel of expert partners meets once a full term to review our advisors recommendations and confirm your award level. You can then advertise your success with the Moving On Well Award at Bronze, Silver or Gold level to all your stakeholders and partners.



Renew Award

Your Moving On Well Award status lasts for three years at which point you need to renew. In the interim you are welcome to request another site visit from your Moving On Well Advisor to apply for the Award at Silver or Gold level.