

The Abbey

PREPARATION FOR THE NEXT STAGE IN EDUCATION

1. Policy Statement

As a school we must prepare our pupils the best we can in order to meet the new challenges of the move to the next stage in education.

2. Procedure

2.1 Queen's House Pupils Moving on

It is very important that Queen's House pupils feel secure when moving from the pre-preparatory department to The Abbey. This is achieved by various means:

2.1.1 Pupils getting to know Abbey staff

- The Master and Second Master lead Queen's House assemblies once a week.
- The Master attends Queen's House lunch and sits with the pupils once a week.
- Abbey staff members assist with a Queen's House sports club once a week.
- Year 2 pupils visit The Abbey on the new pupils' afternoon and meet their teachers.
- Year 2 pupils attend the Dress Rehearsal of The Abbey play.
- The Master and other members of staff attend Queen's House events such as concerts and sports day.

2.1.2 Pupils getting to know The Abbey site and Abbey pupils

- Year 2 pupils visit The Abbey for an afternoon on two occasions in the Lent and Trinity terms.
- Year 2 pupils participate in a football tournament at The Abbey in the Lent term.
- Year 2 pupils participate in The Abbey's Verse Speaking Competition.

2.1.3 Academic Preparation

Teachers responsible for subjects liaise and Year 2 and Year 3 teachers communicate regarding preparation for the transition, e.g. needs of particular pupils and approaches to study in subject areas. In some cases joint meetings are set up with the parents present.

2.2 Abbey Pupils Moving On

2.2.1 Abbey pupils 'get to know' Senior School members of staff through:

- Specialized language staff come to The Abbey to teach four different languages.
- Senior School staff attend Abbey concerts, plays and Abbey Prize Giving.
- The School Chaplain, leads Friday assemblies and all special or end of term services.
- The Headmaster leads an assembly once a term.
- Year 6 pupils have interviews with the Junior House Mistress before sitting the entrance examination.

2.2.2 Abbey pupils 'get to know' Senior School pupils and the Senior School site through:

- Year 5 and Year 6 pupils visit the Senior School for 'taster days'.
- Year 6 pupils play against Year 7 pupils in various sports.
- Abbey pupils use Senior School facilities such as the Seckford Theatre, School Hall and Tuckwell Room, tennis courts and the Astroturf.
- Abbey pupils attend the Commemoration Day Service in the Dome and Abbey pupils participate in the service.
- Senior School pupils assist with Abbey activities and Sports Day.
- On occasions Abbey and Senior School pupils join with each other to participate in joint cultural events.

2.2.3 Abbey pupils are prepared for secondary education through the curriculum:

- Setting in Mathematics (throughout the school) and in English (Year 6) and the moving around for other subjects (Science, Design Technology, Art, Food Technology) helps pupils develop personal organizational skills which they will require when they have to move around for all subjects in secondary education.
- Independent learning skills are encouraged through the Abbey curriculum, e.g. the setting of personal targets, self review of assignments, research assignments and independent use of the library. Pupils are also encouraged to write Holiday Diaries which the Master reviews and awards Commendations for.
- The PHSE scheme of work covers themes that pupils may encounter in their secondary education, e.g. peer pressure, bullying, relationships and alcohol.
- Pupils who do not join the Senior School are supported where possible for the entrance examinations they will sit for other schools.
- The Master speaks to Year 6 pupils about 'moving up' and what they may expect to encounter.

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