



The Afasic *Getting Ready for Secondary School* course aims to support Year 6 students with SLCN and their families prepare for the transition to Year 7. Moving up to secondary school can be a very challenging time for students so we want to offer them the best possible start for a smooth transition!

During a week-long course that takes place during the summer holidays students learn:

- What to expect in Year 7
- How to start conversations and make new friends
- Practical skills (e.g. reading a timetable)
- How to deal with difficult situations and how to ask for help

Lessons are delivered from experienced Speech and Language Therapists in collaboration with SENCOs and teachers either online or face to face in local secondary schools. Students have the opportunity to meet others, learn new skills and share their hopes and fears for Year 7 through interactive, engaging and fun activities.

As part of the course, parents/carers are invited to a parent workshop where they are able to meet other parents, share their experiences and concerns and learn strategies to help their children thrive when they start year 7.

The courses were developed in collaboration with SLTs, SENCOs, students and parents and continue to be refined every year to ensure that they offer the best possible support to students and their families. We also continue to expand to new areas all across the UK. In the summer of 2022, we organised 16 courses to over 150 students in areas such as London, Manchester, Edinburgh, Cardiff and Dorset.

What people have said about the courses:

During the course I learnt how to be confident

Year 6 student from Greenwich, London

My favourite part of the course was playing with new friends

Year 6 student from Sussex

I learnt ways to make my child more organised, other parents' experiences and the basics of bullying

Parent from Barking, London

S was very happy telling me everything that happened in the group and is a changed to see my boy full of love and talking about an interesting group*

Parent from Edinburgh

I just want to feedback on how much everyone has enjoyed it! We have had so much feedback from teaching assistants who have attended with pupils and lots of schools really interested in doing this in the future. We have loved every minute of it!

Speech and language therapist from Cardiff

I really loved volunteering with the transition groups. It was a great experience for me.

Speech and language therapy student volunteer

