

# Cordwalles & Collingwood Transition Week



## Organisation

Cordwalles School & Collingwood College, Surrey Heath Confederation of Schools

## Target Group(s)

Year 6 at Cordwalles School

## Context

Successful transition from junior school to secondary school can be enhanced by early exposure to the new setting and by meeting new teachers. The aim of the week was to give the children a more in-depth understanding of what life in a Secondary School will be like, including the range of teachers they will have, the rules system, the transitions between different lessons and the style/structure of lessons.

## Action planned

During the second half of the summer term 2009 the 52 children from Cordwalles' Year 6 spent the week at Collingwood College. This was all children in the Year Group and was a mixed ability and diverse group of children.

Each morning the children were registered at Cordwalles, they then walked over to Collingwood, before returning to Cordwalles at the end of the day.

During the week, the children took part in a variety of lessons at Collingwood, based around the theme Aztecs. This included English, Maths, History, Food Technology and PE.

## Outcomes and Impact

The transition week allowed the children additional opportunities to sample life at secondary school. This gave them extra preparation time prior the normal transition days. It gave them a far better experience of normal working life at Collingwood [or any secondary school] than they could have gained through the two induction days.

By taking part in the transition week the children felt far more at ease and confident when attending their induction days.

The joint planning and implementation raised the awareness of the staff at Collingwood of the possible needs and abilities of the children moving from Cordwalles, and through the theme approach to the planning it raised awareness of the approach taken to learning at Cordwalles [cross-curricular].

The week has also enabled the staff at both schools to realise that there are further opportunities for the school and college to work together, and other cross phase initiatives are being explored.

To bridge together the unique qualities of each educational setting within the confederation to the greater benefit of the wider community and the individuals within it



#### Next Steps

Cordwalles School and Collingwood College plan to run a similar week in the summer term 2010 for pupils moving to secondary school in September 2010. The staff are also exploring possible links with ICT, Maths and Science.

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