

Frequently Asked Questions: transitional arrangements for country schools

Will my year 7 be staying in primary school, or going to the local high or area school?

From 2022, the expectation is that all year 7s will be taught in high school and/or area school.

Can my child stay in primary school if I want them to?

If your child is in year 7 between 2022 and 2024 at an eligible primary school, you can ask the Principal to keep your child in primary school, if you have a particular reason for wanting them to stay.

This will be called a 'by exception' exemption.

When do I have to ask for an exemption to keep my child in primary school?

The process for seeking a 'by exception' exemption will be announced before the start of the 2021 school year.

It is likely that parents will need to ask for the exemption as part of the usual state-wide transition process for students moving to high school (which starts late term 1 the year before moving).

So schools can plan, it is also likely there will be a firm cut off deadline, after which a family can no longer ask for the exemption.

How much money will our primary school get to make sure we don't lose a class when year 7 moves?

The Department will work with key stakeholders to develop a procedure for eligible primary schools to apply for grant funding to top up their class numbers for the transitional period of 2022-24.

This procedure will be released before the start of the 2021 school year.

This process will likely include a simplified template to help schools estimate the financial impacts of the departure of the year 6 cohort.

How much money will our primary school get to help with the transport costs associated with the double transition of year 6s and 7s in 2021?

The Department will provide a grant to **all** country primary schools to help cover double transport costs for transition days in 2021.

How the funding will be distributed between country primary schools will be the subject of consultation, prior to announcement before the start of the 2021 school year.

Which primary schools are eligible for the transitional arrangements?

Primary schools that are more than 20 km by road from their local area or high school (including School of the Air) are eligible for these arrangements.

More information, including a list of eligible primary schools, can be found in the 'Transitional Arrangements for Regional Communities' document available at:

<https://www.education.sa.gov.au/7tohs>.

