

Children & Young People
Oldham Council, Civic Centre, Level 3,
West Street, Oldham, OL1 1UT

Dear School Leader

Y6 Transition Days Update

Following analysis of the recent increase in COVID rates in the Oldham and consideration of the potential impact on Public Health of multiple events where residents would be interacting, the Director of Public Health and the Managing Director of Children's Services have advised that the scheduled physical transition days for year 6 pupils should not take place in the 2020/21.

Our previous advice was about how to conduct these events safely, however the situation in the borough has developed. We are experiencing increasing rates, including in our primary school and secondary school age groups. The new Delta variant appears to be associated with a higher risk of transmission and we advise caution.

A physical transition day requires many pupils from different bubbles coming together in an indoor environment. Due to the increased rates in the borough, we consider that despite Covid safe measures being followed, the possibility of transmission and infection is too high a risk to take.

This will be a disappointment for staff and parents because transitions days are key to reassuring children as they move schools. Some schools are already considering other approaches, including virtual transition days in order to continue to support children. This guidance is in line with other Greater Manchester boroughs who have advised against physical transition days.

In addition, we reiterate advice that schools should continue to operate in line with government guidance, to avoid non-essential events that bring children or young people together from different bubbles including leavers events and proms.

Regards,



Gerard Jones
Managing Director of Children &
Young People



Katrina Stephens
Director of Public Health