

ESF TRANSFER & TRANSITION PROJECT

Hello and welcome to the world of the ESF's current Advisory Teachers. We are Andrea Brittan from Kennedy School and Fran Crouch from South Island and we are currently based at the Sarah Roe Centre, when we're not in schools (which is most of the time!).

ADVISORY TEACHERS

With the current focus in many educational systems being on the transfer process between primary and secondary, the ESF decided to appoint not one, but two, advisory teachers. The aim of the secondment is to build on the many examples of good practice which already exist throughout the Foundation.

It was really the 1997 Education Officers' report on continuity and progression across Key Stages 2 and 3 that provided the initial impetus for the five-term secondment. Partly as a result of the findings of that report, our 'job description' has evolved under four main headings: administering the Transfer and Transition project developed by Professor Galton of Homerton College, Cambridge; developing the Transfer Document currently in use in Y6/Y7; putting together an ESF-wide Transfer Booklet and co-ordinating the Cross Phase Moderation Days.

Transfer and Transition Project

Last year in the early stages of the secondment, most of our time was taken up with the Transfer and Transition Project. At the beginning, Andrea had the task of visiting Principals to introduce them to the project and find out about current transfer practices. Then, after an intensive week's training in data collection from Dr. Linda Hargreaves from Homerton College, we both embarked upon gathering information from all Year 6 students. (9 schools x up to 5 classes per school x 30 students per class...that's a lot of information!) This included observing Year 6 students in Maths and English lessons, administering attitudinal tests and measuring students' attainment through the QCA scores.

All this has been encoded and sent to Homerton for analysis, so now we can start thinking about the next stage of the process, which is visiting those same students as fully fledged Year 7's in October/ November. Primary colleagues did a great job of welcoming us last term and we look forward to working with secondary teachers in the coming term.

Transfer Document

As it's around 5 years since the birth of the ESF Transfer Document, the general feeling seems to be that it's time to review it. To this end, we have met with colleagues responsible for liaison in both Primary and Secondary schools to find out how they view the document. Thanks for your useful comments on this; we hope to use these as the basis for re-vamping the document.

Cross Phase Moderation Days

THE PROJECT

The project has been developed from work done in the UK, which showed that just under half the students experience a dip in progress in some subjects when transferring from upper Primary to Secondary school.

Aims:

- To ascertain if there is any dip in performance after transfer in ESF schools
- To observe the students' different experiences in Primary and Secondary classrooms
- To collect baseline data on attitudes and attainment that can be used to inform Prim/Sec liaison & transfer

Project Timeline:

- May/June 2001: Data collection in Primary schools
- Oct/Nov.2001: Data collection in Secondary schs.
- Jan.2002: Eval. of results & Dev. Plans discussed
- Jan.-June 2002: Advisory teachers work with schools to support the chosen development plan

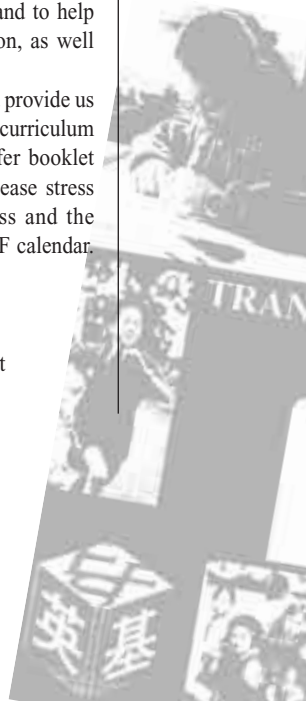
After a period of hibernation, we're pleased to announce that Cross Phase Moderation Days in English, Maths and Science re-emerged last year. Judging by the evaluation comments, they were favourably received. Although assessment and moderation was part of the Agenda for the days, they were also an opportunity for primary and secondary colleagues to discuss a whole range of teaching and learning issues. Our contribution to the days was mainly in terms of co-ordination; members of the curriculum groups did the real work and we would like to thank everyone involved for their contributions to planning and presenting these days. Thanks also to those who came along, for their support and participation.

Transfer Booklet

This also began life as a result of the 1997 report, being the task given to the West Island 'cluster'. The aim was to present Y6 pupils and parents with information about the transfer process as well as providing an introduction to their new Secondary school. We were asked to continue this and with the help of liaison colleagues in secondary schools, in particular Emma Field of West Island School, we have put together a 'first draft'. Many thanks also, to David Boyle of West Island's art department who designed the folder and organised printer's quotes. Our next step is to visit Secondary schools to share the draft and to help schools compile their own school-specific information, as well as arranging printing.

And then, where next? The data collection should provide us all with some valuable pointers for further developing curriculum continuity and progression across KS2/3. The transfer booklet and soon-to-be-renovated transfer document should ease stress levels for all those involved in the transfer process and the cross phase moderation days are again part of the ESF calendar. Watch this space!

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SOUTH EAST ASIAN MATHEMATICS COMPETITION (FIRST)

In March 2001, Y9 and Y10 teams from WIS, SIS, SC and IS travelled to KL to participate in the first ever SEAMC+. They competed in individual and team competitions and also lighter puzzle, quiz and computer rounds, conducted whilst the teachers were involved in an Autograph ICT inset course. The competitions concluded with a KLCC Mathematical Chase at the twin towers shopping centre. The event ended with a gala dinner and awards ceremony at the top of the KL tower. The competition was a real triumph for ESF Schools.

Following this success, ESF secondary schools will be hosting the second SEAMC+ in Hong Kong in March 2002. The competition was the brainchild of Steve Warry from the Alice Smith School. Sadly, Steve died one week before the competition. We hope to live up to the exceptional precedent set by Steve and his team at Alice Smith.

For details, contact secondary school Mathematics Departments or Sally Hughes at SIS.



The Alice Smith School Kuala Lumpur

If $\sqrt{x+2} = 2$, then $(x+2)^2 =$

A) $\sqrt{2}$ B) 2 C) 4 D) 8 E) 16

The perimeter of a semi-circle is equal to its area. The radius of the semi-circle is

A) $\frac{2}{\pi}$ B) 2π C) $(2+\pi)/\pi$
D) $2+4\pi$ E) $2\pi + 4/\pi$

SEA MATHS COMPETITIONS

THE WINNERS

Individual prizewinners

- John Chan, West Island School (*Highest Individual score*)
- Daniel Kou, West Island School
- Gabriel Ling, Island School
- Clemence Lee, South Island School
- Han Seob Bae, South Island School

Overall Competition Winners

- South Island School
- Clemence Lee
- Mark Leung
- Julia Yoon

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