

LEARNING OBJECTIVE

To face new challenges positively by collecting information, looking for help, making responsible choices, and taking action.

CURRICULUM LINKS

QCA citizenship: Unit 2 – Choices; Unit 12 – Moving on.

KS2: En1 Speaking and listening (3) Group discussion and interaction.

New school – new friends

What you need

A 'speaking object' (see the introduction on page 6).

What to do

Introductory phase

- Call out different categories, such as: children who support the local football team; children who like to play computer games; children who like swimming and children who like cycling. Ask the children who fulfil these categories to stand up and change places with each other.
- Invite the children to think of other categories to use in the game.
- Now explain that during the game there were several changes of position. Ask the children what other more important changes have happened to them, such as moving house or changing classes.
- Pass the 'speaking object' around the circle and encourage the children to finish the sentence, *One change that has happened to me is ...*

Middle phase

- Explain that the lesson is about the transition to a new school, which will be a change and a challenge. One of the challenges may be having to find new friends.
- Organise the children into pairs and ask them to think about what sort of children they would like to have as friends. Ask the pairs to report back to the circle.
- Give the children time to think about how they are going to make new friends. Ask them what they think they need to do. Suggest, for example, that they should smile, look friendly, approach someone and start a conversation even if it is about the weather!
- Pass the 'speaking object' around the circle and encourage the children to finish the sentence, *To make new friends I would...*
- Ask for volunteers to role-play the strategies they would use. Highlight the useful ideas from the role-plays.



Closing phase

- Ask the children how they will keep in touch with friends who are transferring to a different school.
- Invite the children to think how they should celebrate the end of their primary education. Pass the 'speaking object' around the circle and encourage the children to finish the sentence, *I think we should celebrate by...*

Differentiation

Be sensitive to some of the children's fears about changing schools. Use role-play to act out the first day at a new school. If possible, invite Year 7 pupils to talk to Year 6 about their experiences at a new school.