

Report Outline

This report is one of three on the study *Students' Transition from Primary to Secondary Schooling*. Details of the other two reports are given on page 6.

The purpose of the study was to investigate what it is like for students when they move from primary to secondary schooling, as a basis for establishing to what extent this transition may be a problem for some or all students. It was also to identify ways in which to make this transition smoother for students, with the ultimate aim of contributing to enhanced experiences and increased successes for students in the classroom and at school generally.

Fieldwork for the study was carried out over an 18-month period, from October 2003 to April 2005.

As the title suggests, the core of this report documents the experiences of 'Emily', one of our participating students, throughout the transition process. The report is divided into four parts.

Part I begins by setting out the nature, purpose and scope of the report, followed by a brief description of how it links to the other two reports in the series. It also includes suggestions for using the report.

- *Go to page 7 for the 'Using this Report' section.*

Part II contains an overview of the primary to secondary schooling transition study as a whole, as context for Emily's story.

- *Go to page 12 for details about the transition study.*

It further contains summary details about Emily, plus a brief description of 'Luke', portions of whose story are included to complement that of Emily's.

- *Go to page 16 (Emily) or page 20 (Luke).*

Part III has a primary focus on Emily. Each of its eleven chapters (Chapters Three to Thirteen) covers different aspects of her story, with a particular

emphasis on the 18 month period of the study during which she progressed from her final year at primary school to Years 9 and 10 at secondary school.

Short pieces about Luke are also inserted into each of the chapters in Part III, as are portions of the data on the more than one hundred students who participated in the transition study. The references to other students are intended to show where, how, or if their experiences and views differed from those of Emily.

- *Go to page 24 to commence reading full coverage of 'Emily's Story', and to page 26 for the first set of summary data about 'All Students'.*

Part IV comprises a discussion of what the information presented in previous chapters tells us, with reference to the transition study's research objectives. The discussion incorporates data from Emily's story, but in contrast to Part III, now has a greater overall emphasis on data relating to all participating students.

- *Go to page 246 following, for presentation of key findings and accompanying discussion.*

A very brief summary of the findings of the study, as presented in *this* report, is provided overleaf.

Other data, for example, detailed analyses of students' achievement throughout the transition process, are presented in the two further reports on the study.

- *Go to page 6 for details about these reports.*