



myBlueprint

TRANSITION TO HIGH SCHOOL: Student Guide





WHY IS TRANSITION PLANNING IMPORTANT?

Dear Grade 8 Students,

As you approach the end of your middle school journey, it's natural to start thinking about what comes next. Transition planning may seem like just another task on your to-do list, but we want to emphasize why it's important and how it will significantly help you in your next steps.

Setting Goals: Transition planning is an opportunity for you to reflect on your future and set goals which allows you to identify your aspirations and create a roadmap to achieve them.

Building a Support System: Transition planning involves collaboration between you, your family, teachers, and counsellors. This teamwork ensures that you have the support and resources you need to succeed in high school and beyond. Your support system will encourage you, provide guidance, and help you overcome any obstacles you encounter.

Enhanced Independence: High school marks the beginning of greater independence and self-discovery. Transition planning empowers you to take ownership of your education and future. By actively participating in the process, you'll gain more confidence in your abilities and be better prepared to face the challenges ahead.

Reflection and Self-Awareness: Transition planning is also an excellent tool for reflection and self-awareness. It allows you to consider your strengths, interests, and values, helping you make informed decisions.

Remember, transition planning isn't just about preparing for high school—it's also about shaping your future. Take advantage of this opportunity to reflect on your goals, explore your options, and take control of your journey. The choices you make now will be crucial to your success in high school and beyond.

You've got this! We look forward to supporting you in the steps ahead!

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Don't know where to start?

Visit:

www.myBlueprint.ca/anglophonenorth

www.myBlueprint.ca/anglophonesouth

www.myBlueprint.ca/anglophoneeast

www.myBlueprint.ca/anglophonewest

Select "School Account Login"

Use your school email address and your password

SELF-ASSESSMENT

PORTFOLIO CHECKLIST

In your Education Planner Account go to [Home > Portfolios > +Add Portfolio](#), Title: Transition Portfolio

Add an avatar and banner image to personalize your portfolio

Self-assessment 

Take the time to assess where you currently are at, which will be a great way to set specific goals and track your growth over time.

1. Complete the self-assessment titled: [I am a Learner](#) (last page of this guide)
2. Upload your self-assessment by clicking [Home > Portfolios > Select your 'Transition Portfolio' > +Add Box > Add Media](#) and upload your self-assessment.
3. Answer the self-assessment reflection questions by clicking on the [Reflection](#) icon at the bottom right corner of your self-assessment portfolio box.

You can't really know where you're going until you know where you have been.



GATHER EVIDENCE

PORTFOLIO CHECKLIST

Gather Evidence

As part of your Grade 8 transition portfolio, we invite you to showcase your learning, progress, and achievements by uploading evidence of your work. Reflect on the projects, assignments, and activities you've completed this year, and select items that demonstrate where you are, what you're proud of, and what you'd like to showcase to others.

Feel free to include photos, written reflections, and any other materials that capture your journey and accomplishments.

From the left-hand navigation menu go to [Home > Portfolios > Select your 'Transition Portfolio' > +Add Box > Add Media](#)

In the description space when you upload your Evidence of Learning e Reflect:

- [Why did I choose this evidence?](#)
- [What do each evidence show about who and where I am?](#)

It should be clear why you selected this specific evidence of learning.

Evidence of Learning can be captured with various media options - giving you the ability to demonstrate your learning in a variety of ways!



REFLECTION

PORTFOLIO CHECKLIST

Reflection

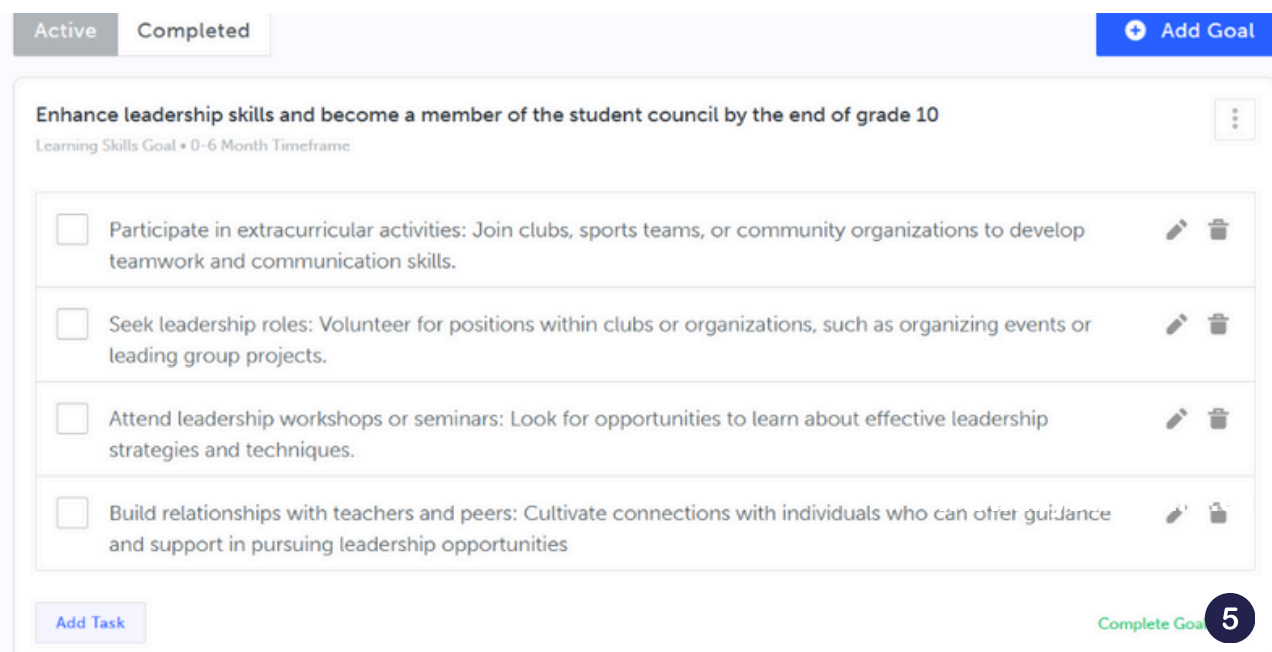
Once you're done, take time to answer at least 4 of the reflection questions provided in the [Looking Back and Looking Ahead](#) (page 7 in this guide). From the left-hand navigation menu go to [Home > Portfolio > Select your 'Transition Portfolio' > +Add Box > Add Journal](#)

Goal Setting

Now that you've taken the time to assess your current position and incorporate evidence of your learning, it's time to consider what your next steps will be.

From the left-hand navigation menu go to [Home > Goals > +Add Goal](#). Set a goal for something you would like to improve in . Add your goal to your portfolio (click the three dots at the top right of your goal, click [Add to Portfolio](#)).

Here is an example of a goal



The screenshot shows a digital interface for goal setting. At the top, there are tabs for 'Active' and 'Completed', and a blue button labeled '+ Add Goal'. The main goal is 'Enhance leadership skills and become a member of the student council by the end of grade 10', with a sub-label 'Learning Skills Goal • 0-6 Month Timeframe'. Below the goal, there are four tasks, each with a checkbox and a trash icon:

- Participate in extracurricular activities: Join clubs, sports teams, or community organizations to develop teamwork and communication skills.
- Seek leadership roles: Volunteer for positions within clubs or organizations, such as organizing events or leading group projects.
- Attend leadership workshops or seminars: Look for opportunities to learn about effective leadership strategies and techniques.
- Build relationships with teachers and peers: Cultivate connections with individuals who can offer guidance and support in pursuing leadership opportunities.

At the bottom left is a button 'Add Task', and at the bottom right is a green button 'Complete Goal' next to a circular badge with the number '5'.



PRESENTATION

PORTFOLIO CHECKLIST



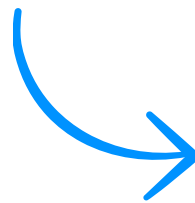
Presentation

Now that your portfolio is finished, it's time to ask yourself: Does this portfolio paint a clear picture of my strengths, challenges, interests, accomplishments, and goals?



No! It's time to revise:

Consider what additional elements could be included to fully portray yourself as a learner. Are there areas where your peers or teacher could offer assistance? Do you require more evidence or perhaps refining your goals? Once you're ready you can move on to presenting.



Yes! Then You are ready to present:

From the left-hand navigation menu go to [Home > Portfolios > Select your 'Transition Portfolio' > Share or Slide Show \(top right\)](#) You can share your portfolio in student-led presentations, or by sharing your portfolios to gather some feedback from your classmates and your teachers.

“Make sure your portfolio represents YOU - be creative”



REFLECTION

LOOKING BACK AND LOOKING AHEAD

Questions:

Reflecting on Middle School (Grade 7/8):

1. What were some of the highlights of your time in middle school?
2. What will you miss about middle school?
3. If you could sum up your middle school experience in one word, what would that word be?
4. If you had a piece of advice to give someone who is just entering Middle School what would that advice be?

Looking Ahead to High School:

1. What are you most excited about as you prepare to transition to high school?
2. Are there any subjects or extracurricular activities you're looking forward to exploring in high school? Why?
3. What are you curious about or still wondering about regarding high school? Is there anything you're worried about?
4. What would you like your new teachers to know about you?
5. How do you think you can make a positive impact on your new school community in high school?

Add a Journal Entry reflecting on the above questions. From the left-hand navigation menu go to [Home > Portfolio > Select your 'Transition Portfolio' > +Add Box > Add Journal](#) (remember you can add text, audio or video for your post!)

I AM A LEARNER

Self-Assessment



1 2 3 4

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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I can set achievable goals for my learning and work towards them consistently.

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I can reflect on my learning progress and identify areas where I can improve.

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I can actively participate in classroom discussions and activities, sharing my ideas and asking questions.

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I take part in discussions by asking interesting questions and giving well-thought-out answers

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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I can manage my time effectively to balance my schoolwork with other activities and responsibilities.

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I can seek help from teachers or classmates when I encounter difficulties with my learning.

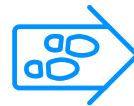
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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I can adapt my learning strategies based on feedback and new information.

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I can demonstrate a growth mindset by embracing challenges and learning from mistakes.

NEXT STEPS



YOU Can DO IT

1. What's something new you discovered about yourself this year?
2. Can you recall a time when you felt really good about something you did? What was it, and why did it make you feel proud?
3. Which subjects did you enjoy the most this year? What made them fun for you?
4. Think about a project or assignment you liked working on. What did you like about it, and what did you learn?
5. Did you face any challenges this year? How did you handle them?
6. What activities or hobbies did you enjoy outside of school this year?
7. How did you study and get organized this year? What worked well for you?
8. What kind of classroom environment helps you learn best?