



## Helping your family navigate the journey from primary to secondary school.

June 2021

Dear parents and carers,

Soulscape is a charity working in partnership with Wokingham and Bracknell schools to give young people the space they need.

We will be meeting your young person across their secondary school life as they take part in our different projects, and we hope to meet them this term for **Mind the Gap**.

### What is Mind the Gap?

Mind The Gap is a project designed to give young people the confidence they need to make a happy and successful transition from primary to secondary school. We know it can be an anxious time for many. Every year, Mind The Gap supports around a thousand young people across local schools through this important transition.

### Support for your child

We're running workshops for Year 6 at your child's primary school, where we have discussions, activities, get to know the students and help them to prepare for the changes ahead.

We'll be there at their induction days. And in September, when the young people arrive for their first day at secondary school, they will find the Mind The Gap team already there waiting to greet them at the school gates and help them settle in.

### Support for you

We know that it's not just your child going through the transition to secondary school – this change affects the whole family. So we would love to get to know you too, and offer you some expert support.

We're running an **online evening session just for parents** this month. An expert in the field, Katie Skinner, will speak with us for around an hour about:

- The transition from primary to secondary school
- Anxiety in children
- Perspective taking
- Why children worry

Then we'll have 45 minutes for questions and discussion.

If you have any specific questions you'd like Katie to address, please let us know in advance and we'll pass them on.

Katie Skinner has years of experience as a teacher and child wellbeing specialist, and in supporting pupils with communication, interaction, social or emotional difficulties to develop appropriate emotional regulation skills, in both specialist and mainstream settings at primary and secondary level.

Parents always find these special sessions really helpful. So why not dial in?

## The details

**When:** Tues 29 June 2021 at 7pm

**Where:** Online (using Zoom)

**How to attend:** Email Michelle ASAP on [michelle.mcleish@soulscapе.org.uk](mailto:michelle.mcleish@soulscapе.org.uk) and she will send you the password to join the meeting.

**Cost:** It's free to attend, but if you'd like to make a donation to Soulscape's projects (including Mind the Gap) that would be very welcome. Please visit [soulscapе.org.uk/donate](https://soulscapе.org.uk/donate)

Places are limited so please book yours as soon as you can. We hope to see you there with your Year 6 parent friends – parents from any school are welcome if you'd like to pass this invitation on. We look forward to working with your brilliant kids too!

If you have any enquiries or questions at all about Mind the Gap, please feel free to email Michelle. You can find out more at [soulscapе.org.uk](https://soulscapе.org.uk).

Very best wishes,

**Michelle McLeish**  
Operations Manager  
Soulscape



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**MIND THE GAP**

**soulscape**

CREATING SPACE  
TO EXPLORE LIFE

## **Mind The Gap**

helps Year 6 students make a happy, successful transition to secondary school.



In the summer term, we visit Year 6 at their primary schools, discussing the changes ahead through fun activities. We're there at their secondary school induction days in June and July.

Then in September, our familiar team is on hand at school for the first few days of Year 7, offering practical and emotional support as the students settle in and make friends.

Research has shown that a good start is vital to young people's ability to thrive at secondary school. Mind the Gap has supported every secondary student in Wokingham town through this important transition.

## **FIND OUT MORE**

**Web:** [soulscape.org.uk](http://soulscape.org.uk)

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