

## DRAWING THE FUTURE *with a Transitions Twist*

### What is Primary Futures?

[Primary Futures](#) is a free programme from the charity Education and Employers, seeking to raise children's aspirations, challenge stereotypes and help them see the relevance of learning by connecting schools with inspiring role models from the world of work. Schools can use Primary Futures to plan in-person activities with local volunteers or connect virtually with volunteers from all walks of life across the country, including through our pre-recorded activities and lesson plans. With thousands of virtual volunteers available, schools can make links with pupils' learning whatever the focus – whether it's a horticulturalist joining a lesson on plants and biomes' or a graphic designer talking about how they use art, maths and IT. The Primary Futures team can support with resources, guides, planning calls and advice. [Register to access all this and more](#)

### Why link careers with transitions?

The move to secondary school for Year 6 pupils is a key moment for aspirational thinking: what are they working towards for their futures and how will the upcoming transition form the building blocks for this?

### How to use this resource

Teachers may be familiar with our simple activity 'Drawing the Future' that generated [revealing research](#) about children's aspirations in 2016. This is an adaptation of that activity for children to make the explicit link between their career aspirations and the imminent transition to secondary school.

- **Part 1 'Drawing the Short-Term Future'** is a simple reflection activity adapted from one of our plenaries for children to consider their feelings, thoughts, actions and take-aways for the transition ahead on a diagram of head-heart-bag-feet.
- **Part 2 'Drawing the Long-Term Future'** is a simple aspirational drawing of what job(s) pupils want to have when they are older. Pupils then do a written reflection or discussion with prompts about how the two drawings connect.

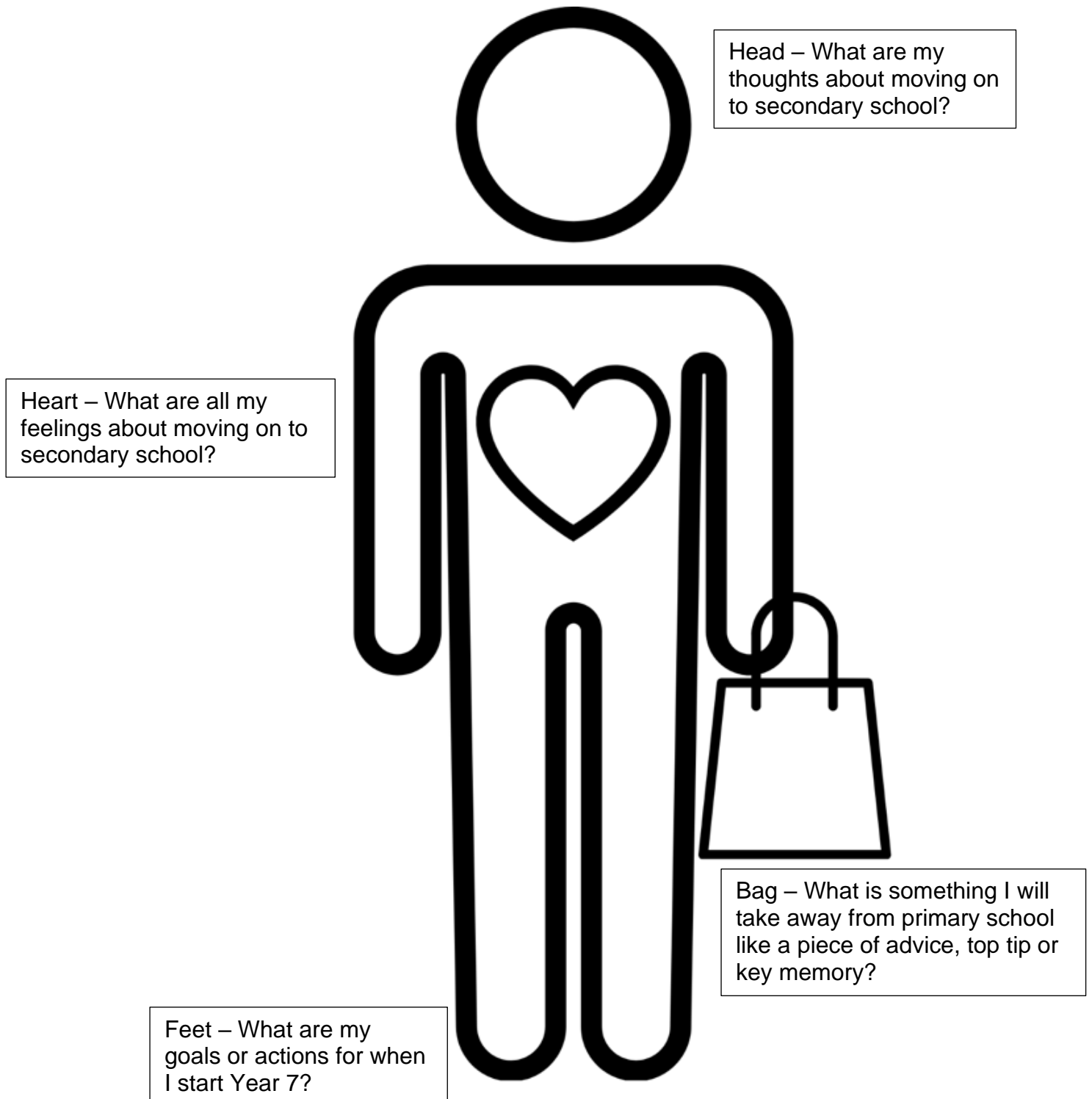
You could conduct this as a two-part activity as preparation for other transitions activities or just use one or the other parts as stand-alone.

Ideally, this two-part activity can also be used as an optional starter/plenary for a live careers Q&A with Primary Futures volunteers with a Year 6/7 transitions theme. You can find further details in the Activity Format Guide to 'Making the Most of Transitions'

Children's drawings as an expression of their own aspirations can be optionally included in their portfolio you pass on to secondary schools.

## Part 1: Drawing the Short-Term Future

As individuals, groups or a whole class, reflect on the upcoming transition to Year 7 and secondary school. Write your answers to the prompts on sticky notes or annotate the drawing.



## Part 2: Drawing the Long-Term Future

When I grow up I would like to be a.....

Draw a picture of what you want to do as a job when you grow up. If you draw more than one picture, mark one of them as your top choice. You can also write on your drawing if you wish.



1) I chose this because.....

2) Can you list three skills or qualities you think are necessary for this job that will **also** be useful skills/qualities in secondary school? (i.e. speaking in front a group)

1. .... 2. .... 3. ....

3) One thing I will do in secondary school to help me get this job in the long-term future is.....

.....

4) Go back to your first drawing 'Draw your Short-Term Future'. Have you anything to add or change about your thoughts/feelings/goals/take-away now that you have thought about what you would like to be when you grow up? Write your additions in a different colour or use a different coloured sticky note.