

The Spring Up approach is an opportunity to provide additional support to SD61 priority students transitioning from grades 5 to 6 or grades 8 to 9. While all students benefit from transition support, Spring Up is meant to be a supplemental support for students who require personalized transition opportunities beyond the existing school-based activities. The goal of Spring Up is to support student transitions to middle and secondary schools through the lens of connection and belonging while enhancing mental wellness.

Program Overview	Spring Up creates opportunities for students transitioning to middle or high school to have 1-3 transition visits in May, June and possibly August, where they can meet key staff, become familiar with the building and grounds, and increase their confidence and knowledge around the impending transition to a new school.
Process and steps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● SBT identifies student candidates (maximum 6-8; consider 2% of your grade level population) ● Include student’s family in conversation and planning (see sample parent letter) ● Identify receiving school key contact(s) - School Counsellor, YFC, and/or member of the admin team to support school tour, course information, schedule and logistics details
Criteria	<p>Spring Up candidates may present with a profile that surfaces one or more of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Concern that student may not “land successfully” at their new school ● Challenges with school readiness (eg. anxiety, sleep hygiene, social connections, internalized states, etc.) ● Student may struggle to engage in school (learning, environment, and/or activities) <p><i>*This process is not intended to replace personalized transition plans for students with complex needs already connected to SBT and/or Community Agencies</i></p>
Considerations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Spring Up will be unique to each school and will have the greatest impact where flexibility and creative problem solving are embraced ● Identify a school-based lead to plan and implement/support the Spring Up program; consider the role that staff such as Counsellors, YFCs, LSTs, Teacher Librarians, Career Coordinators, etc. can play as potential resources for facilitating consultation and collaboration within this process. ● When planning transition activities, please visit this link for ideas and resources