



SPAN offers a home to anyone committed to healthy transitions and attachment security.

"Mobility across cultures can be one of the richest sources of learning and personal growth that life has to offer. But these benefits are only likely to occur when mobility's massive challenges are managed well."

-Douglas W. Ota author of
Safe Passage: How mobility affects people & what international schools should do about
(2014)

The Language of Positive Transitions-Care

SPAN's Essentials Reference Guide

What is positive transitions-care?

Positive transitions-care consists of intentional systems and processes designed to help students, families, and staff navigate the challenges of transitions within, between and beyond schools. This is especially crucial for international schools, who often experience high turnover amongst their community and represent diverse cultures. As globalization continues to grow, so does the need for effective and positive transitions-care.

What is attachment security?

Attachment security is shaped from early childhood when a child's needs for safety and security are met by their caregivers. Feeling safe and secure allows children and young people to explore and grow confidently. Close and trusting relationships are necessary for every one of us to function independently. Positive transitions-care promotes and restores attachment security by creating a safe educational, social and emotional environment for students to thrive.

Why is positive transitions-care important?

A culture of positive transitions-care can enhance the development of learning, relationships and wellbeing. The research literature is clear. When young people are equipped with the language of transitions and understand what to expect from transitions, they are more likely to thrive and adjust better to new social, learning and cultural environments. Equipping and supporting students, families, and staff to navigate transitions within, between and beyond schools, prepares them for future transitions in all aspects of life.

Who is responsible for positive transitions-care in a school?

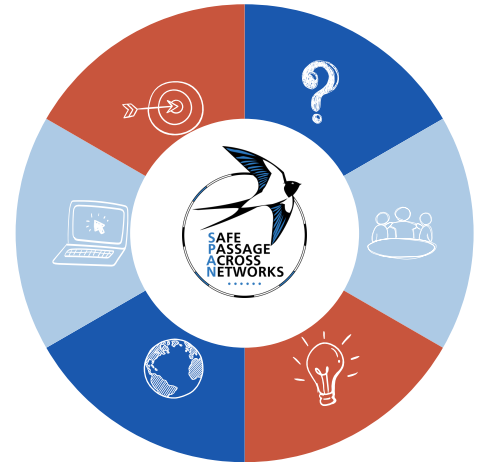
Creating a sustainable and positive transitions-care program and culture requires a dedicated Transitions Team. This team should include representatives from all school stakeholders (Administrators, Board Members, Students, Parents, Teachers, Staff, Counselors, HR, Admissions, and Alumni), reflecting the school community's diversity. Positive transitions-care involves everyone: Leavers, Stayers, and Arrivers.

How can SPAN help you improve positive transitions-care at your school?

SPAN aims to ensure the well-being of globally mobile students, parents, and staff by maintaining transition support standards, and equipping and refreshing those on the front lines. SPAN's network nurtures a strong community where members share a sense of belonging and commitment to promoting positive transitions-care. Regardless of your experience with transition or transitions-care, SPAN meets you where you are. We offer curated resources, pathways to enhance your transitions-care program, and an opportunity to engage with and belong to a community of like-minded professionals.

Where are you on your SPAN Journey?

At SPAN, we recognize that every school is unique and may be at different stages of implementing and embedding positive transitions-care within, between, and beyond their community. We provide diverse support options to strengthen your transitions-care initiatives, irrespective of your current stage of development.



Evaluate: As an individual, as a school, as part of a network

Download SPAN's **free** preliminary evaluation grid to assess your school community's transition experiences, and current policies and practices for supporting positive transitions-care. Gather input from all stakeholders to celebrate existing practices and identify areas for improvement.



Join our Community

SPAN provides a supportive community for transitions-care providers to share good practices and forge meaningful connections. Sign up for our **free** quarterly newsletter, and join us in 'The Nest', our award-winning, **free** online monthly gathering.



Online Courses, Symposium, and Virtual Deep Dives

SPAN delivers professional learning opportunities for education leaders, school staff, parents, students and other professionals. Our courses, symposia, and virtual deep dives equip and empower individuals, schools, organizations and networks to transform transitions-care for their community members.



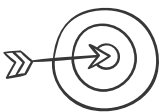
Membership

Join SPAN's global network of positive transitions-care advocates through membership available for individuals, schools, and organizations. Enjoy access to resources, recordings, and live webinars, and connect with like-minded peers to share support and resources.



Resources for Members

SPAN's expanding array of practical resources enhance transitions-care knowledge and practice, featuring The Safe Passage Book Study, archived Nest episodes, Symposia Keynotes and SPAN Showcase Schools, and curated Laws of Transitions Artefacts.



Tailored Consulting

SPAN empowers individuals, schools, organizations, and educational networks to transform transitions-care for their communities. Our tailored consulting services help you understand, evaluate, design, and implement programs to cultivate a sustained culture of care and wellbeing.

Where do you go from here?

1) Explore SPAN's website

Click on any of the links below:



Home

About

Connect

Equip

Refresh



o **About:**

- [SPAN's history](#)
- [SPAN Team](#)
- [SPAN in the press](#)
- [SPAN Blog](#)
- [Privacy Policy](#) and [Terms & Conditions](#)

o **Connect:**

- [SPAN Memberships](#)
- [SPAN Sponsorship](#)
- [SPAN Member Schools and Organizations](#)
- [SPAN Supporting Partners](#)

o **Equip:**

- [Register for Certificate Courses](#)
- [Workshops](#)
- [Consulting](#)
- [Resources](#) (free and behind the membership wall)
- [Safe Passage Book Study](#)

o **Refresh:**

- [Register for The Nest \(free\)](#)
- [Register for the SPAN Symposium 2024 \(October 9-10\)](#)
- [Register for Virtual Deep Dives](#)

2) Evaluate your school's transitions-care policies and practices

Download SPAN's **free** preliminary evaluation grid (from the [SPAN website](#)) to assess your school community's transition experiences and current policies and practices for supporting positive transitions-care.

PRELIMINARY SCHOOL SELF-EVALUATION
What existing policies and practices support positive transitions in your school?

• Collect information from all stakeholders (administrators, board members, parents, students, counselors, teachers and members of staff, human resource managers, administrators) regarding your school community's existing policies and practices supporting positive transitions for each group below.
• Create a Transitions Team (or call it whatever fits best for your school community) preferably including members from each stakeholder group.
• Calculate what is already in place, you likely have more than you think!
• Connect with SPAN on ideas for enhancing positive transitions-care in your school community. Email us at admin@spanschools.org.

The Next 2024-25 season will offer episodes on each of the nine squares on the grid below. To register click here

School Name:	Students	Families	Staff
Arriving			
Staying			
Leaving			

3) Become a SPAN Individual or School/Organization Member

Safe Passage Across Networks (SPAN) is a non-profit, volunteer run organization. SPAN membership is open to any individual, school, and organization who values positive transitions-care and training across school networks. By belonging to the SPAN family, a member gains access to expert training, resources, and a supportive network to assist in embedding positive transitions-care within their communities.

JOIN THE SPAN FAMILY - MAKE SPAN YOUR HOME
Choose the plan that works best for you

Individual	School/Organization - Small	School/Organization - Medium	School/Organization - Premium
75 USD per year	1,000 USD per year	1,500 USD per year	2,000 USD per year
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Access to all SPAN resourcesAccess to all SPAN trainingAccess to all SPAN eventsAccess to all SPAN newslettersAccess to all SPAN social mediaAccess to all SPAN websiteAccess to all SPAN databaseAccess to all SPAN email listAccess to all SPAN phone listAccess to all SPAN website	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Access to all SPAN resourcesAccess to all SPAN trainingAccess to all SPAN eventsAccess to all SPAN newslettersAccess to all SPAN social mediaAccess to all SPAN websiteAccess to all SPAN databaseAccess to all SPAN email listAccess to all SPAN phone listAccess to all SPAN website	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Access to all SPAN resourcesAccess to all SPAN trainingAccess to all SPAN eventsAccess to all SPAN newslettersAccess to all SPAN social mediaAccess to all SPAN websiteAccess to all SPAN databaseAccess to all SPAN email listAccess to all SPAN phone listAccess to all SPAN website	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Access to all SPAN resourcesAccess to all SPAN trainingAccess to all SPAN eventsAccess to all SPAN newslettersAccess to all SPAN social mediaAccess to all SPAN websiteAccess to all SPAN databaseAccess to all SPAN email listAccess to all SPAN phone listAccess to all SPAN website

Join these SPAN Member Schools and enjoy School Membership benefits!



4) Use our letters of justification

Do you need help justifying your attendance for professional development, either for the [SPAN Symposium](#), the [Laws of Transitions Certificate Course](#) or [SPAN Membership](#)? Download SPAN's easily adaptable letters to make a compelling case to your school or organization (scroll down on each page to download).

5) Contact us

Connect with SPAN to explore ideas for enhancing positive transitions-care in your community. For more information on any of the above, email us at: admin@spanschools.org.

Our SPAN Supporting Partners

