

Successful Transitions

A positive transition to school sets up our children for success at school and life.

CURRICULUM

Early Years Learning Framework Links (EYLF)

- Children have a strong sense of identity
- Children are connected with and contribute to their world
- Children have a strong sense of wellbeing
- Children are confident and involved learners
- Children are effective communicators

Kindergarten orientation & transition advice

NSW English & Mathematics Syllabus

Communicates effectively by using interpersonal conventions and language with familiar peers and adults. (ENE-OLC-01)
 Understands and responds to literature read to them. (ENE-UARL-01)
 Demonstrates an understanding of how whole numbers indicate quantity. (MAE-RWN-01)
 Reads numerals and represents whole numbers at least to 20. (MAE-RWN-02)
 Communicates ways to be caring, inclusive and respectful of others. (PDE-3)

FAMILIES

READ 2 min

Successful early years transitions are more likely when they happen in partnership with educational settings.

Transitions aren't one-off or sudden events. They happen over a long period of time as students' journey through phases of their life. During transition it's important that your child has the opportunity to:

- Engage in familiar activities
- Be social and make connections
- Get to know their new learning environment
- Know that there are people there to help them
- Build on children's prior & current experiences
- Help children feel secure, confident and connected

"Transitions, in the early childhood context, are defined as: The process of moving between home and childhood setting, between a range of different early childhood settings, or from childhood setting to full-time school." (Early Years Learning Framework)

EXPLORE 10 min

Some ideas for supporting transition:

- Attend a school orientation or transition to school program at your new school.
- Have a conversation with your child about their feelings on the first days of school – discuss what to do if your child feels sad, worried, nervous?
- Read books about starting school (e.g. Starting School by Janet Ahlberg).
- Practise writing and recognising their name.
- Practise putting on their school uniform.
- Practise packing items into their school bag.
- Practise opening all the items in their lunch box.

Books to support transition:
 As I Grew Older by Ian Abdulla
 Papunya School Book of Country and History by Papunya School

TEACHERS

REFLECT 30 min

Reflect on your knowledge and practice.

- Consider the EYLF, NSW Syllabus and LPs:
- Where have these children come from?
 - Where are you taking them?

Think about the learning happens in your classroom that builds the knowledge and skills for a successful transition to the classroom.

What do you want parents to know about transition?

In what other settings might a child experience transition? (i.e. not just from an ELC to K classroom)

This is an opportunity to share what successful transitions looks like in your classroom. Also you may consider transitions that happen throughout the school day.

ENGAGE 45 min

Engage in a learning conversation with parents.

Is there anything in the video that challenged your thinking about learning and the connection with transition?

What foundational skills do you see in the video that would assist with a successful transition?

How are the children:

- Practising their skills?
- Testing their ideas?
- Building their knowledge?

What opportunity can you create, or do you have at home that supports your child's transition journey?