

TRANSITION KINDER-FOUNDATION POLICY

RATIONALE:

Kindergarten to school transition is a vital stage in children's education and overall development. It should enhance the child's independence, and support successful participation in school life. The process is important for future emotional, social and intellectual growth. Transition incorporating promotion, enrolment procedures, orientation, admission and induction stages, aims to alleviate difficulties and recognises that children's needs vary according to social background, experiences, and stages of development.

AIM:

To support and empower the child and family, and provide collaboration between all people involved in the transition process.

IMPLEMENTATION:

- The Transition Program will focus on positive interaction between parents/caregivers, teachers and the child
- The Learning Team One Team Leader will coordinate the Kinder-Foundation transition program
- The first contact with the school is crucial and must be a positive experience for both parent and child
- A Foundation Expo evening will be held within the first semester for potential enrolments for the following school year
- A Flying into Foundation Program will be offered in Semester Two, with a limited number of places
- Close cooperation, communication and promotion between the school and local kindergartens and childcare centres, will be fostered throughout the school year
- The enrolment process will include tours of the school (optional), distribution of written information about the school, completion of enrolment forms, presentation of birth and immunisation certificates and Kindergarten Transition statements
- All enrolled children are encouraged to participate fully in the Beginning School Program
- Learning Team One staff and K-F Transition Coordinator will plan Beginning School Program activities
- As part of the transition program, students will receive a welcome pack at their first Beginning School Program session
- Future Foundation students will meet their teacher for the following year, in line with the rest of the school
- Welcome letters will be sent to all Foundation students in early January consisting of a letter from their teacher, a picture of their buddies (photo permission required) and a reminder of their Foundation Entry Assessment Program (FEAP) testing time
- Foundation students will attend school on an alternate timetable, with Wednesdays allocated as rest days until the end of February to allow for smooth transition and time to facilitate the completion of the FEAP
- Transition will include multiple and various contacts between the Transition Coordinator, Learning Team One staff and Pre School teachers. Pre School children and parents will be encouraged to participate in a variety of school activities of varying duration. Information sessions for parents will be held.

The Beginning School Program includes the following events:

- Flying into Foundation sessions commencing Semester Two
- Ten sessions where children are involved in a variety of school activities, routines and procedures
- Parent education sessions will be offered in the areas of English, Mathematics and Student Wellbeing
- A 'Meet the Teacher' session late in Term Four
- Foundation Entry Assessment Program during February
- A barbeque to welcome new families in Term One

- Parents are encouraged to make an appointment with their child's teacher at any time throughout the school year, to discuss any issues of concern.

Evaluation:

This policy shall be reviewed as part of the school's three year review cycle.

References:

DET website

Findon website

Beginning School Program information pack and booklet

'Flying Into Foundation' literature

Media Policy