

# Transition plan – nursery / pre-school to school



Your child needs special transition consideration due to their particular difficulties. This may be coping with change, difficulty remembering things, processing information, understanding and using spoken language...or a combination of any or all of these. This may lead to anxiety in new situations. An individualised transition plan is therefore important to ease the transition process for them, whatever their particular difficulty.

We would advise that as much as possible of the following be undertaken in a gradual lead up to the end of term, probably starting after the Easter break.

<b>Things to do</b>	<b>Date booked / Notes</b> (if relevant)	<b>Completed</b>
Start to fill in the "All about me" transition booklet (with your child if appropriate - the adult should do the writing, but do discuss all the items and support your child to think of responses if possible)		
Ideally, parents and/or nursery staff need to take them to their new school and classroom <i>before</i> they have a transition visit with the whole class. This should be done at a quiet time i.e. at break or lunch time or after school when other children are outside/ not around		
If they are reluctant to go into the classroom initially, reassure them that this is OK and that you will come back later and have another look, maybe with a friend		
If they are showing any distress about going in, during either the individual visit or with the class, do not try to force them to go in. Offer reassurance that you understand how difficult it is for them. Explain that you will have lots of visits to look at the classroom, and just stand at the door looking in for the first few times so that they can become familiar with it gradually		

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If there are different entrances/exits, show them these ways in also e.g. it is reassuring for them to know the main entrance 'way in' in case they have to come in to school late one day, or need a transition period of coming straight in to school rather than waiting in the playground.		
They need to be well orientated in relation the other familiar parts of the school i.e. how to get to the hall, out to play, to the office etc. Walk these routes with them several times over a period of time. Point out different parts of the school that you are passing		
Show them the toilets and the cloak area they will use		
Look around the classroom and point out the main areas and items e.g. where they will sit, where they will keep their books and water bottle, smart board, teachers table, where to find various resources etc.		
During this visit it would be helpful if they could meet their new class teacher and TA. It would be a good idea to use this meeting to show them their 'All about me' booklet. And if you have a "photo home-nursery book" your child might like to show it to their new teacher.		
After this visit ask your child if they have any questions, and if there is anything else they need to know.		
Ask if there is anything else they would like their new teacher and TA to know about them. Sit together and complete their Transition booklet with them.		
Explain/show how to use a picture line to help know what they will do each day in their new class. Start using one at home over summer, like a calendar, so your child can see what is going to happen each day.		

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Ask about the usual daily routine of the class. If the teacher already uses a time-line, ask for a copy. If not, then ask your Speech and Language Therapist for help prepare a school-day picture time-line. Also ask them to speak to school about using one with the whole class. Have this at home over summer, to look at every now and then, so your child becomes familiar with it.		
To help and reassure your child over the summer, they need to have some photos and/or a video of their new classroom and new staff. They can look at this from time to time over the summer. It will be easy for them to forget what they have seen during the transition period. Parents could come in after school one day to take photos/a video.		
In September, consider whether your child would find it easier being allowed straight into the classroom on arrival without lining up in the yard - it can lessen anxiety knowing you will be the first in the room and be able to sort yourself out before all the other children come in.		
The "All about me" Transition Booklet is enclosed. There is a section to fill out with your child, and a section for parents/Nursery to fill out.		

Thank you for your support with this process. A well planned transition can make a world of difference to a concerned child.



If you have any questions or would like any further information please contact your child's Speech and Language Therapist at the above address.