



Hardmoor Nursery & Early Years Centre Transition to School Policy

Policy Statement and Guidelines
September 2024

Mission Statement:

To provide a happy, secure and stimulating environment in which everyone is included, respected and valued, so that they may grow in self-esteem and develop to their full potential.

Transition to School Policy

Moving on to school is a major transition in a child's life involving separation from familiar adults and children. Older children have a more secure understanding of 'people permanence' and are able to approach new experiences with confidence. However, they need preparation if they are to approach transition to school with confidence and an awareness of what to expect.

Partnership with schools

- Once the parents have received confirmation of their child's school, Base Leaders record this information.
- Using this information, Base Leader make every effort to forge and maintain strong links with all schools that children may attend.
- Once the contact is made with the school, transition or settling in procedures that are shared are kept by the Nursery Base Leaders and are referred to so that members of staff are familiar with them and can develop a consistent approach to transition with teachers, parents and children.
- Teachers are welcomed into the Centre and sufficient time is made for them to spend both with the child and with the key person, to discuss and share information that will support the child's transition to school.
- A child's Summer 2 summative assessment is forwarded to the school along with other information that will aid transition and settling in. Parents receive a copy of this.
- Any action plans relating to a child's additional needs are also shared, where this is in place.
- Other formal documentation such as safeguarding information is prepared in line with Centre procedures.

Partnership with parents

- Key persons discuss transition to school with parents and in parent consultation meetings, discuss learning and development summaries.
- Key persons will discuss with parents how they are preparing their child for school and will share information about how the setting is working in partnership with the school to aid transition.
- Key persons will make clear to parents the information that will be shared with the school, for example, information regarding child protection and work that has taken place to ensure the child's welfare.

Preparing children for leaving

- Children and parents form bonds with adults and children in the setting and will need preparation for separating from the relationships they have formed.
- The child's last day should be prepared for in advance and marked with a special celebration or party that acknowledges that the child is moving on.
- Parents should not be discouraged from bringing the child for the occasional brief visit, as separations often take time to complete. Sometimes children need the reassurance that their nursery/pre-school is still there and that they are remembered.

Date Approved – Spring 2024

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