



Kangaroo Island Education Partnership Pre-school to Reception Transition Policy

Transition to School

We aim to support the transition of all children and their families through the different sectors of schooling.

Transition to school from prior-to-school settings is a critical time in the lives of children. It is a complex and long-term process that involves a child's identity, the internalisation of leaving one setting and then developing a sense of belonging within the new setting.

DECD Eligibility statement

Children are entitled to access 4 terms of preschool in the year before they start school. There is 1 intake at the beginning of each year for children who turn 4 years of age **before** 1 May.

In addition, the following groups of children are also eligible preschool enrolments and may commence throughout the year.

- Aboriginal children and children under the guardian ship of the minister
- Gifted and talented
- Interstate and overseas transfers
- Australian Defence Force families
- Early entry

Starting school

If your child turns five before May 1, they will start school on the first day of Term One in that year. If your child turns five on or after May 1, they will start school on the first day of Term One the following year.

Essential principles of transition

To support children and families in the transition to school the Partnership will be guided by the following principles:

Acting intentionally

Recognise that each child and family is unique and therefore transition programs may look different for each child and their family according to their individual needs. Orientation programs are arranged to learn the culture of the new setting.

Being responsive

Early Years leaders will meet to share and have professional conversations about each child using DECD preschool Statement of Learning, Negotiated Education Plans, Individual Learning Plans and portfolios throughout the year of transition.

Pedagogy and play

Staff will work together to support connections and continuity of learning for children as they transition to school.

Wellbeing for learning

Educators understand the connection between wellbeing and learning and share a commitment to supporting and monitoring wellbeing.

Building partnerships

Leaders and educators work with families and also with colleagues to ensure communication about individual children's learning is comprehensive, collaborative and informs practice.

Professional collaboration

Educators in schools and prior to school settings engage in a range of planned collaborative professional activities.

Transition Timeline

This timeline below will be used by each site as part of their Transition Program.

End of Term 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Preschool will provide a list of children that will be starting school the following year.	Pre-school Director
End of Term 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Preschool will provide information on children with additional needs.	Pre-school Director
Term 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Leaders to meet to coordinate the orientation plan• Parent letter to be sent home outlining the orientation plan.	Pre-school Director KICE EY Site Leader
Term 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Formal orientation will occur as per each individual site's orientation plan• A parent meeting will be offered in each site. Enrolment packs and information about the new setting will be provided.• Individual Learner Information will be shared between Preschool and School	KICE EY Site Leader