

TRANSITION

KINDER to PREP

POLICY

Rationale:

Starting school is a major life transition for children and their families. It is a time of change that can be both challenging and exciting, in which children and families adjust to new roles, identities, expectations, interactions and relationships. A successful start to school is linked to future positive school outcomes, both academically and socially. Iramoo Primary School endeavours to make the transition to primary school as enjoyable and positive as possible.

Aims:

- To ensure that our young children receive the best possible start to their school life.
- To enable preschool aged children to become familiar with the school environment, teachers, routines and classrooms.
- To enable preschool aged children to develop confidence with their new learning environment.
- To enable our young children to participate in a variety of school activities.

Implementation:

During Term 1:

- Transition Coordinator to visit local Kindergartens/childcare centres to provide dates and procedures regarding the enrolment at Iramoo.
- School tours are scheduled to show new parents around Iramoo's buildings and facilities. Other tours may occur throughout the year on alternate Wednesdays.

During Term 3:

- Transition Coordinator to begin organising Term 4 Transition Program.
- A list of all enrolled children will be developed.
- Transition Coordinator to visit local Kindergartens/childcare centres to provide information regarding the Prep Transition Program for children enrolled in Prep for the following year.
- Name tags will be made for all enrolled children in the Transition Program.
- Year 5 teachers to identify names of Year 5 student helpers and provide names to the Transition Coordinator.

During Term 4:

- The Prep Transition Program will commence on the second Friday of Term 4. The program will operate for eight sessions and the final day will be in the week prior to Orientation Day.
- The Prep Transition Program will operate on Friday afternoons between 1:45pm and 2:45 pm.
- Year 5 student helpers will be used to assist with the Transition Program.
- During the Transition Program current year Prep children will participate in activities supervised by the Specialist teachers.
- Parents/carers of children taking part in the Transition Program will be invited into the staffroom each Friday for information sessions.
- A Prep Information Evening will be held in December for the following year's Prep parents/carers.

- Prep Information booklets and grade details to be delivered to the local Kindergartens/childcare centres for distribution to parents/carers before the Prep Information Evening and Orientation Day.
- An Orientation Day will be held early in December for all children enrolled in Prep for the following year.
- The coordination of this day is to be undertaken in conjunction with Year 6/Year 7 Orientation. Year 6 teachers may be required to supervise the current Prep children on this day.
- Iramoo representatives will attend a Transition Working Group organised by the Wyndham Council to meet with Kindergarten teachers and hand over Transition Learning and Development Statements (Transition Statements). These statements capture information about children's skills, capabilities and dispositions to learning. Sharing and discussing the Transition Statements will be important in supporting children's continuity of learning.
- When organising class structures for the following year, information gathered from the Kindergarten teachers, supervising Prep teachers and parent requests will be considered.
- The Transition Coordinator to collate Kinder – Prep Transition Statements received from Kindergartens/childcare centres and pass on to the following year's Prep teachers.
- Inform parents/carers that Prep students will attend for half days (8.50am – 12.45pm) from the start of the school year for the month of February. The exact dates each year will vary. Parents/carers will be notified through the Prep Information booklet.

Evaluation:

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