

This procedure outlines transition practices for students starting school as Reception students, new students and those leaving the school as Year 7 graduates.

Transition from Preschool to School

Students and their parent/carer are invited to meet with the Principal/Deputy Principal for a pre-enrolment meeting and to attend a Parent School Tour.

Before starting school, children are invited to visit so they can become familiar with some staff and the environment. Our school also has a buddy system with older children so that children develop cross-age relationships which help support the transition.

Information from kindergarten staff will be actively sought to ensure any specific needs concerning individual students are addressed and students are supported through their start to school.

Our main feeder Preschool is Thorndon Park Kindergarten, with a significant number of enrolments also coming from other local preschools.

The School's role in Transition

- Monday Week 3 Term 3, First round of offer and Enrolment forms are sent to in-zone families from Enrolment Register of Interest
- Friday Week 7 Term 3 – Second round of offer and Enrolment forms are sent to non-local families from Enrolment Register of Interest. Transition information sent to verified families.
- During Term 4, Leadership Team meets with new parents for an information session.
- Principal/Deputy Principal liaises with preschools from which new children are attending for information and reports.
- Early years teachers visit new students at their kindergarten where possible to begin to establish relationships.
- Transition days are held in Term 4 prior to starting school. There will be three sessions offered where the children visit during specific times without parents. This provides opportunities for the students to become familiar with some staff members, explore the school and visit various teaching and learning areas. Some basic school routines and rules will be discussed and students given opportunities to play outside and learn about the boundaries, where toilets are located and how to ask for help.

- In Week 0 before school begins for the year, new students will be offered a brief opportunity to visit their class and meet their teacher.

Class Placement

Parents will be provided with a questionnaire to provide information regarding their child. This information includes support that was provided at preschool, friendships and other information that is relevant for consideration with transition and structuring classes. Wherever possible, students will be placed with at least one other student from their preschool or friendship group as requested. Other factors including, but not limited to, special needs, gender balance and class complexity will also be considered when forming classes. Transition visits allow the Leadership Team and teachers to gather information to assist with grouping students together in classes for the following year.

Transition for Year 7 students

Transition from primary to secondary schooling is a major milestone for both students and parents. These procedures promote a smooth and positive transition and build on the learning and successes of individuals during primary years:

- All Department for Education Transition information is distributed to families
- Secondary school representatives will be encouraged to visit Thorndon Park Primary School to meet with Year 7 students and teachers, provide information, and answer questions.
- Thorndon Park Primary School staff will communicate with secondary schools to ensure that important information relating to each student's social, emotional and academic achievements are exchanged
- Extra visits from and to secondary schools will be arranged as required, as well as additional visits for students with special needs as deemed necessary by the schools and outside agencies
- Year 7 students will spend at least one day on a transition visit at the secondary school that they will be attending. This will take place towards the end of Term 4 in the year prior to their exit from primary school and is organised by the secondary school.

Year 7 students in High Schools from 2022

Years 6 and 7 students will graduate from South Australian public primary schools at the end of 2021. Year 7 students will attend High Schools in Term 1, 2022.

Reviewed September 2019

