TRANSITION POLICY

PRE-SCHOOL TO PRIMARY SCHOOL

Rationale:

- Transition from pre-school to primary school is an exciting and challenging time for both children and parents. Children commencing school are required to cope with a very different environment. It is our school’s responsibility to make this transition as enjoyable and trouble free as possible.

Aims:

- To provide a smooth and efficient transition from pre-school to primary school with additional support provided to those who require it.

Implementation:

- Our school will appoint an experienced staff member to coordinate our prep transition program.
- After enrolment, we will communicate with each feeder pre-school and inform them of the names of children who have enrolled at our school.
- Transition statements will be collected from the pre-schools, and meetings will be organised with parents of children with special needs to discuss programs and resource requirements.
- A transition program will be organised during term 4, which allows each child (and their parents) the opportunity to attend our school on 5 occasions during the term.
- The school has a Buddy Program, which consists of senior students being paired with prep students and supporting them through their first year at school.
- Visits will consist of familiarisation tours of the school, activities in classrooms, specialist lessons and meeting their future Buddy.
- It is anticipated where possible that teaching roles and classes for the following year will be finalised in time for the final pre-school visit, so that parents can be made aware of, and meet their child’s teacher, and so that children can have an experience with their ‘new’ teacher in the corresponding classroom.
- Information sessions will occur in term 4 during so that parents can be informed about the school programs and procedures, and an opportunity will be provided for questioning and discussions. The first school day of the following year will be covered in detail.
- All parents will receive detailed information packages about the school.
- A morning tea for parents will be provided on the first day of school, with specialist staff assisting classroom teachers with the needs of the new children.
- Opportunities will be provided for parents to visit classes or communicate with the school regarding their child’s progress at all times, and any issues that arise will be attended to as soon as possible.
- To ensure full thorough and rich assessments are conducted, Prep children will not attend school on Wednesdays during Term 1.

Evaluation:

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

This policy was last ratified by School Council in August 2011
