



Transition into Early Years:

Starting Nursery and Reception

We understand that starting Nursery or Reception is a significant milestone for both children and their families. Our aim is to ensure every child feels happy, secure and confident as they begin their learning journey with us.

We recognise that positive transitions support children's wellbeing, confidence and future success. We therefore work closely with families, early years providers and other professionals to ensure children settle quickly and develop a strong sense of belonging from the very beginning.

Working in Partnership with Families

Parents and carers are children's first and most important educators. We value the knowledge families have about their children and work closely together throughout the transition process.

Before children join us, we provide opportunities for families to:

- Meet key members of staff
- Visit the learning environment
- Attend information sessions
- Share important information about their child
- Ask questions and discuss any concerns

This helps us to get to know each child as an individual and ensures we can provide the best possible start.

Getting to Know Every Child

We gather information from parents, previous settings and other professionals to develop a clear understanding of each child's strengths, interests and needs.

Where children attend a pre-school or nursery setting, we work closely with staff to ensure important information about children's learning and development is shared effectively.

This enables us to build upon children's existing knowledge, skills and experiences from their very first day.



Settling into School

Starting school is an exciting time, but we recognise that children settle at different rates.

Our transition arrangements are carefully planned to help children become familiar with:

- Their new classroom and outdoor environment
- Key adults who will support them
- Daily routines and expectations
- New friendships and relationships

We place great importance on helping children feel safe, valued and confident as they begin school life.

Building Strong Foundations

The first few weeks in Nursery and Reception focus on developing secure foundations for future learning.

Staff prioritise:

- Communication and language development
- Personal, social and emotional development
- Physical development
- Building positive relationships
- Establishing routines and independence
- Developing confidence and a sense of belonging

Through careful observation and high-quality interactions, staff get to know children well and plan learning experiences that reflect their interests and developmental needs.

Transition from Nursery to Reception

Children moving from our Nursery into Reception benefit from a carefully planned transition process.

Throughout the year, children become increasingly familiar with Reception staff, routines and learning environments. Staff work closely together to share information about children's learning, development and next steps.

This ensures continuity and helps children feel confident and prepared for the next stage of their education.



Transition into Year 1

Transition does not end at the end of Reception.

Throughout the summer term, Reception and Year 1 staff work closely together to ensure children are fully prepared for the next stage of learning. Information about children's attainment, interests and individual needs is shared carefully to support a smooth transition.

Children have opportunities to:

- Meet their new teacher
- Visit their Year 1 classroom
- Become familiar with new routines and expectations
- Build confidence about the move to Key Stage 1

Year 1 staff continue to build on the strong foundations established in the Early Years Foundation Stage, ensuring children remain confident, engaged and successful learners.

Supporting Every Child

We recognise that some children may require additional support during periods of transition.

Where needed, personalised transition arrangements are put in place to ensure children feel secure and ready for change. This may include additional visits, visual supports, individual meetings or closer partnership working with families and external agencies.

Our goal is for every child to feel welcomed, valued and excited about the next stage of their learning journey.