

Transition to School

Quality Area 6 – Collaborative partnerships with families and communities

National Quality Standard 6.3.2

ECS National Regulations 181

Muswellbrook Pre School Kindergarten Inc.

**INTRODUCTION**

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that staff and parents work together to assist each child with their transition to Kindergarten. Staff responsibilities include preparing each child for school by developing the child in all areas - cognitive, social/emotional, physical and language, and supporting families in the transition process.

**Muswellbrook Pre School Kindergarten and Educators will:**

**In Relation to the Child**

* Muswellbrook Preschool Kindergarten (“the Preschool’) will implement an appropriate transition to school program.
* Staff will increase each child’s independence by reducing instructions and prompts and assigning more roles and responsibilities.
* Staff should include school items (i.e. school bags and uniforms) in children’s play areas and include school based activities at other times during the day to familiarise the children with school items.
* Children will be helped to recognise and write their own name using NSW foundation script.
* Children will develop listening skills through musical activities that depend on rhythm, and participate in stories that involve repetition.
* Children will be encouraged to sit with legs crossed during group time.
* Children will be encouraged to develop a sense of empathy towards peers by teaching skills such as sharing, turn taking and helping others.
* Children will be encouraged to take responsibility for their belongings.
* Children will be encouraged to follow routines and instructions.
* Children and families will be encouraged to attend school orientation days where the children will be able to familiarise themselves with the school environment.

**In Relation to Families**

* The Preschool acknowledges that the transition to school is a joint effort between the Preschool and home.
* Staff will listen to parents/caregivers concerns and goals for their children. Staff will respect the parents/caregivers decisions on choice of school and when they choose to send their child.
* Staff will discuss any concerns with parents/caregivers in a sensitive manner.
* Parents/caregivers will acknowledge the training and experience of the staff, and co-operate with staff in the interest of their child’s education.
* Staff will discuss with the parents/caregivers any concerns they may have about their child attending school the following year, particularly if the child has a choice about the year in which they may start school. This matter will only be discussed between the staff directly working with the child, the Director and the parents/caregivers.
* Staff will only discuss their concerns about school readiness with parents/caregivers a reasonable number of times, unless instigated by the parent. Any serious concerns from staff should be directed to the Director to deal with.
* Staff may provide school teachers with information about the child’s development and previous experiences. Parents give permission for staff to do this when signing the enrolment form.

Through the implementation of this transition to school policy Muswellbrook Preschool hopes children and their families enjoy the commencement of school and continue to do so for the remainder of their school years. It is the Preschool’s aim for all children to progress happily and have a smooth transition into Kindergarten.

Reviewed 31 May 2017

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| **Signed By** | **Name** | **Signature** | **Date** |
| **Committee** |  |  |  |
| **Nominated Supervisor** |  |  |  |

Due for Review May 2019

Related Documents: