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# Giralang Preschool Unit

**Orientation to Kindergarten Procedures**

*The preschool unit’s ‘transition to school’ program may well vary from year to year depending on the needs of families and children commencing at the preschool. Hence it is not considered appropriate that this procedure dictate specific practices. The transition to school program is however flexible enough to acknowledge the individual needs of children, involve their parents, involve the child visiting regularly visiting the Kindergarten area before he/she commences and occurs over time so as to ease each child’s transition.*

In the latter part of the year, the teaching staff will use both formal and informal means to provide parents with:

* information in relation to the primary school
* various kinds of support and information for parents/carers and children in relation to school transition
* confidential support for parents/carers in relation to the likely needs of their own child as they initially adapt to formal schooling.

The ways in which this will occur are expected to slightly vary from year to year, depending on the particular needs of families. Therefore the preschool’s transition to school strategies could include all or several of the following:

1. regular visiting practices to the primary school over the preschool year
2. Invitations to our kindergarten teachers to visit the preschool and meet the children and families on the child’s ‘home ground’
3. The holding of an information night for preschool parents facilitated by the primary school staff
4. The preschool educational program will be used to orientate children to the school setting e.g. props in the dramatic play area, books and songs that are school themed, ‘school readiness’, pre-writing, pre-literacy and pre-numeracy skills will be actively fostered etc
5. Routine times at the centre will be used to foster greater physical independence and some routines may become more ‘school-like’ e.g. the marking of the class roll