

TRANSITION TO SCHOOL POLICY

Rationale

At Tree Town we recognise that primary school learning environments are quite different to early childhood settings. Our aims are to prepare children emotionally, socially, cognitively and physically for school. We aim to empower children with a love of learning to make the transition from Tree Town to primary school as smooth as possible.

Procedures

- Teachers provide many different learning experiences which guide children in their eventual transition to school. Prior to attending primary school teachers encourage self-help skills, problem solving, concentration span, respect for teachers, self, peers and equipment.
- A school readiness programme (Star Club) which children start at age 4 and a half introduces basic phonics and incorporates alphabet and number knowledge.
- Information about local primary schools is available for parents/whanau to read.
- Notice's from primary schools about open days and information evenings are shared with parents/whanau.
- Children's photos are placed on the 'school wall' so that they and their families can see who else is going to their school.
- Teachers discuss with parents/whanau the benefits of taking their child for school visits prior to starting school.
- A child's last day at Tree Town before starting school is marked with a day of celebration and special rituals.

Reviewed September 2017