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# PRE-SCHOOL TO PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Salisbury Park Primary School  
Pre-school to Primary School Transition Guidelines



Government of South Australia

Department for Education and  
Child Development

## Preschool—Primary School Transition Guidelines

Transition to school is a critical time in the lives of children and families and will significantly influence each child's future well being and ability to succeed at school. The following principles underpin successful transition policies, programs and practices.

### Principles:

- ⇒ The transition from kindergarten to school is an enjoyable, rewarding, integrated experience for students and parents.
- ⇒ All parties, Principal, Director, teachers, parents and students have a clear understanding of the process.
- ⇒ The policies directed towards learning, management and organisation are inter-related and understood by both the school and the pre-school centre.
- ⇒ From the beginning of 2014 all students will commence four terms of reception and 12 terms of Junior Primary education. This brings South Australia into line with other states and territories that have had single school intake for some time.

### Procedure Details :

1. The students who will commence schooling at Salisbury Park Primary School need to be identified and enrolment forms completed at the Primary School, in the term prior to their starting day at school the following year, specifically the end of week 3, term 4 each year.
2. As a general rule the student needs to be 5 years of age before May the 1<sup>st</sup>. Children who turn 5 after May the 1st will begin their formal schooling the following year. Exceptions to this rule, such as: Guardianship of the Minister Students, Indigenous or Gifted Students must meet DECD 'Same First Day Start' policy guidelines (2012).
3. The names of students to be enrolled need to be available for the Principal in Week 3 of the term prior to starting so placement can be considered jointly by Salisbury Park Primary School, Salisbury Park Kindergarten or other pre-schools/kindergartens in the surrounding suburbs.
4. The classroom teacher(s) of the students commencing formal schooling the following year are to be released by the Principal/Deputy Principal to contact the Kindergarten or pre-school by Week 3 of the term prior to the student starting, to discuss the academic, social and emotional needs of the students commencing school the following year.
5. In 2014 Families in the Salisbury Cluster of Schools / Preschools will be supported with the Same First Day Start in 2014 by implementing the One Transition program for all sites to be held on the same day, at the same time. Transition Dates & Times include: Wednesday November 13th 8:50 to Recess, Wednesday November 20th 8:50 to Recess, Wednesday November 27th 8:50 to 12pm Wednesday December 4th 8:50 to 12pm. Transition visits will occur every year in weeks 5,6,7 and 8.

### Visits to the school could include:

- ⇒ A tour of the school by children
- ⇒ Supervised play during the 2 recess breaks
- ⇒ An opportunity for the children to meet with their new classmates and teacher of the school class
- ⇒ An introduction to the importance of our School values and expectations

## **Other feeder Pre-schools and Kindergartens**

The school transition guidelines, dates of transition visits and the school information portfolio to be made available to parents and school office staff from other pre-schools and Kindergartens mid year, each year. This will enable children enrolling at Salisbury Park Primary School from other centres to be informed and involved in the scheduled transition visits.

### **Procedure details continued**

To continue the excellent relationship between Salisbury Park Primary School, Salisbury Park Kindergarten and other pre-schools or kindergartens there needs to be ongoing communication.

This can be achieved by:

- ⇒ The Principal and Kindergarten Director/s will collaborate annually to implement and reflect on the six principles outlined in the 'Transition to School' rubric produced by the Department for Education and Child Development.
- ⇒ The Principal of the school will survey the parents of new enrolments in term one each year to determine if the transition process meets the needs of both students and parents or caregivers. The results of the survey will be shared at an annual meeting with the Principal, Reception teachers and Kindergarten Director/s.
- ⇒ The kindergarten continuing to be a part of special events or performances conducted at the school such as: Harmony Day, Sports Day, Special Guests such as Peter Combes etc.
- ⇒ The reverse transition to continue for our students throughout the year. This involves the school reception and reception/year one teacher and a number of students each year.
- ⇒ The kindergarten/s to continue to access school facilities for their students such as: The library, school hall, meeting rooms etc.

For more information

Visit your local preschool, school or the Department for Education and Child Development, Early Years website at <http://www.earlyyears.sa.edu.au>

