



St. Bernadette's Catholic Primary School

Early Years Transition Policy

At St Bernadettes Catholic Primary School we endeavour to ensure a smooth transition for pupils between pre-school and/or Cloud 9 Nursery and the Reception class and also between EYFS and Key Stage 1. Children and parents/carers need to feel secure and confident to face the challenge of starting school and the significant changes as they progress through their school life. We recognise that children are vulnerable at stages of transition. We implement a range of strategies and activities to ensure a smooth and happy transition.

Aims

- To provide a smooth transfer from home or pre-school to Nursery and/or from pre-school or Nursery to Reception for both pupils and their parents/carers
- To ensure that the children's emotional well being is a priority
- To ensure good communication between staff, parents and pupils
- To raise parents' awareness of school routines and how to support their child at school
- To provide a smooth and positive transition between Reception and Key Stage 1 and to ensure that the EYFS assessment information is effectively communicated

Transition from home or nursery into Reception

Nursery and Reception have a connecting gate in the outside area and are encouraged to visit each others' classrooms during freeflow sessions carried out in the Summer term.. This aids a smooth transition into the Reception class. The Foundation Stage staff work closely in order to cater for individual needs and abilities and children are familiar with staff.

The school liaises with the local pre-schools. The staff from local pre-schools and Cloud 9 nursery visit with the children in order to familiarise them with the school. Children's needs and levels of development are discussed in a transition meeting arranged between class teacher and key workers.

A Reception information meeting is held in the summer term prior to the children starting school where all information and an explanation of the EYFS is given.

Again, practical information is given to parents/carers as well as suggestions as to how they can help their child.

Children begin school by only staying for the AM for the first few days in order to allow them to settle.

Children will have many opportunities to revisit the Reception class with parents also.

Initially, children will not have an official playtime but will play during freeflow but gradually a playtime is introduced in order to ensure a smooth transition into Key Stage 1.

Transition from Reception into Key Stage 1

We recognise that all children are unique and reach different stages of development at different times.

Entry into Key Stage 1 is, therefore, an important transition. There are a number of strategies to ensure that the move from Reception into Key Stage 1 is a smooth and happy one for the children.

The following strategies are embedded in order to ease transition:

🗨️ Circle time discussions about moving to Year 1

■ Ensuring that in Year 1 there is an appropriate balance of adult led activities and child initiated activities to support children's learning needs in Year 1

■ Ensuring that there is a role play area

In order to further improve our transition arrangements the following strategies will be implemented:

■ Ensuring that there is a writing area in Year 1 classes

■ Story times with the Year 1 teachers in the Summer term prior to Year 1

■ A whole school transition day in July

The timetable for the first half of the Autumn term will be devised by the Foundation Stage Leader and the Key Stage 1 Leader jointly in order to facilitate individual needs and to ensure as smooth a transition as possible.

This policy will be reviewed in August 2018

Kim Anslow (EYFS Leader)

Summer Term B