



EYFS Transition



Here at Doxey we value and ensure a smooth transition from home into Sparkles, from Sparkles into Nursery seamlessly into Reception. Smooth transitions support the personal, social and emotional development, learning and future success of every child. Good transition practice uses knowledge of the child's experiences within their family, encourages good relationships with parents and carers and offers support for continued learning at home.

Principles

- We value parents – we know that our children's parents are the first educators of our children. We invite the parents to help their child to complete an All about me box over the summer to bring into Nursery to share photos of their family and their interests. In Reception the parents are invited to help their child complete an All about me booklet that celebrates their family and interests.
- Building trust – we invite the pre nursery and pre reception children and parents to a series of welcome events in the months prior to entry. The areas of provision in reception are 'familiar' to children from their pre-school experience but are planned to provide suitable challenge. We give out school welcome booklets that include information about the typical routines of the school day and in the Parents welcome meeting we offer a tour around the Nursery and Reception classrooms to look at the enabling environments. The parents and pre-school children are also offered a time to explore the outdoor environment where they are able to see the Nursery and Reception children integrating in a free flow environment.
- Clear communication – our pre-entry procedures include the collection of essential information through registration forms and information from parents about your child's needs, likes and development. Transitions can be more effective if parents use the Parent Boards in Nursery and Reception which display information about what happens in the school and will have a school calendar showing transition activities for the year in the setting. This gives plenty of advance notice about transition events. We have a Learning Journey for every child which contain labelled photographs of your busy children and are an effective way to engage with parents.
- Working in Partnership – Sparkles (pre-school), Nursery and Bright Sparks (Reception) have a positive relationship built on professional respect. Nursery and Reception teachers also have good links with local pre-school settings to aid transition visits. We believe that transitions can be more effective when we have 'school' role play materials for use during the summer term. School sweatshirts, lunch boxes and lunchtime plates, book bags, books and photographs all encourage children to explore ideas about 'going to school'.
- Sharing information – from the transition visits to the pre-school settings and home visits, the key person in the Nursery and Reception class is aware of the likely emotional needs of the child. The school uses written information sent by the early years setting, along with discussions with the Key Person, to inform planning on entry to school. We have recently found that transitions can be more effective after we made a simple book about the Bright Sparks and Little Sparkles, including photographs of key staff and the school environment, for pre-school settings to use.
- When more support is needed - There is a clear procedure for sharing information about a child with additional needs. A transition meeting is held where parents, key adults from the setting, other professionals and school staff are able to share information about the child and plan to ensure their needs can be met in school.
- Getting to know the child - The pre-school setting (Nursery, Sparkles or other local settings) sends an overview of each child's stage of development and needs to Nursery or Reception prior to entry. The teachers from Nursery and Reception visit their 'new' children in the familiar environment of the pre-school setting or home setting and talk to key practitioners or parents about individual children's needs. The environment in the school reflects the needs and interests of the child.