

TRANSITION TO WPS

Starting school is a major life transition for both children and their families. Both challenging and exciting, it is a time of change in which children, families and educators adjust to new roles, identities, expectations, interactions and relationships.

At WPS we believe transitions rely on children, families and early childhood professionals developing positive, supportive relationships. Within these relationships, children should feel that school is a worthwhile place to be, where people care about them and where they are likely to succeed. Families should feel valued and respected as well as included in school life. Our transition program has been designed to support the creation of these successful relationships.

Transition is not a one-off event. It is not complete at the end of the first day of kindergarten or school. It is a process that occurs over time. Even though groups of children might start a kindergarten program or school together, their individual characteristics and experiences make each transition a unique situation.

Our Transition program extends beyond Prep and at the end of each school year all our students participate in a transition program that leads towards them meeting their classroom teacher for the following year.

BUDDY PROGRAM

Our Preps students meet their Grade 6 Buddy as part of the formal transition program so over the summer holiday period they know that on their first day they will see a familiar and friendly face.

The Buddy program is an authentic and very important part of our school programs and the relationships between Buddy and Prep students is a year long development. The Grade 6's meet with their buddy every week throughout the year to read, play, learn and encourage positive play. The leadership and mentorship that our school leaders display is paramount to the type of caring and nurturing culture we promote at WPS.

