

Successful transition to school

What does it look like?

This resource provides some starting points for teachers and curriculum leaders to consider how they can monitor successful transitions to school. It is based on research conducted by the Victoria University Early Childhood Education Research Team (see [Resources](#)).

Monitoring and measuring successful transition to school

	Results	Observable behaviours: What does successful transition look like?	How will you monitor or measure this?
Children	<p>Successful transition is evident when children:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • experience continuity of learning • feel positive about themselves as learners • display dispositions for learning • have a positive relationship with educators and other children • feel safe, secure and supported at school • display social and emotional resilience • feel a sense of belonging. 	<p>Successful transition can be observed when children:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • attend and participate in school (separate easily from parent/caregiver) • confidently communicate with educators and peers • ask for help when needed • ask questions and contribute to class discussions • explore and try new things • demonstrate knowledge of school routines, staff and their roles • have and make friends. 	
Families	<p>Successful transition is evident when families:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have access to relevant information about transition to school • are involved with the school • are partners in their child's learning • have reciprocal relationships with school staff. 	<p>Successful transition can be observed when families:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have been contacted by the school prior to the beginning of the school year • feel comfortable with educators, who have built positive relationships with children and families • pass on information about their child and culture • receive information about their child • engage with other school families • participate in school activities. 	

	Results	Observable behaviours: What does successful transition look like?	How will you monitor or measure this?
Educators	<p>Successful transition is evident when educators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • build reciprocal and responsive relationships with educators in prior to school settings • provide continuity of learning for children • use a range of data and information to plan appropriately for the children starting school • view families as partners in their child's learning and provide opportunities for family involvement. 	<p>Successful transition can be observed when educators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have communicated with all families and children starting school before school starts • support families to build their confidence in managing the transition to school • receive and/or access information about individual children's learning and use this to support transition • have a respectful relationship with families, sharing and valuing knowledge about each child • have a respectful relationship with early childhood educators to share knowledge about children, pedagogies and practices • continue to liaise with early childhood educators after children have started school • participate in local Transition Networks. 	
Resources	<p>Additional resources to support successful transitions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Australian Government Dept. of Education and Training, <i>Continuity of Learning: A resource to support effective transition to school and school age care</i>, https://docs.education.gov.au/documents/continuity-learning-resource-support-effective-transition-school-and-school-age-care • Queensland Government Early Childhood Education and Care <i>Successful transitions</i>, http://deta.qld.gov.au/earlychildhood/about/successful-transitions/successful-transitions.html • Victoria Government Education and Training 2015, <i>Research about transition to school</i>, www.education.vic.gov.au/about/research/Pages/transitionresearch.aspx – This resource is based on research from the report on this site: '2009 – Outcomes and Indicators of a Positive Start to School' 		