

Provide information about the school, class/es, and moving around the school

A suggestion for implementing the strategy 'Plan for successful transitions to school' from the Guide: [Transitions – managing times of change](#)

Includes:

- Use video and student voice
- Introduce your school to new students
- Welcome pack and web page examples
- Strategies for transitioning into primary school
- Useful resources

Inclusive Education

From

Guide: [Transitions – managing times of change](#)

Strategy: [Plan for successful transitions to school](#)

Suggestion: [Provide information about the school, class/es, and moving around the school](#)

Date

19 May 2024

Link

inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/transitions-managing-times-of-change/provide-information-about-the-school-classes-and-moving-around-the-school

Use video and student voice

A video made by Silverstream students for new entrants and their parents. They show viewers the school and classroom routines, and introduce their learning.



Video hosted on Youtube http://youtu.be/wHs_xwLcmVE

No captions or transcript

Source:

[Jo Grant \(NZ\)](#)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wHs_xwLcmVE

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Introduce your school to new students

Ideas for familiarising students with your school.

- ✓ Introduce the students and parents to staff they will be interacting with. Provide names, photos and contact details.
- ✓ Provide opportunities for new students to engage with current students in an activity.
- ✓ Ensure the student can ask questions during the tour of the school and provide a map for visual support.
- ✓ Identify students who will be buddies to the new student.
- ✓ Consider what you do for all students first, then look at what you need to do that is different for a student who needs additional support.
- ✓ Evaluate your school's transition process – ask students and parents for feedback after they have been at school for a term.

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Welcome pack and web page examples

Examples of welcome packs and school website pages.

View these examples of schools using the internet to engage with parents.

- [Orewa College parent portal](#)
- [Albany Senior High School Facebook page](#)
- [Papatoetoe High School website](#)

While it is useful to have information on your school's website, it is helpful to have this available in hardcopy as well.

When creating or updating your welcome pack, consider:

- using inclusive language
- outlining the support for students with additional needs
- describing how you engage with parents in an ongoing way, for example, through face-to-face meetings, newsletters, email, Facebook and so on.

View these examples of school welcome packs.

- [Broadfield School welcome pack](#)
- [Parent handbook for Clifton Terrace School](#)

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Strategies for transitioning into primary school

Strategies for successful transitions from early childhood education to school.

- ✓ Provide information and familiarisation activities for families.
- ✓ Develop home-school partnerships.
- ✓ Make connections with the knowledge and learning that children bring from home and from their early childhood education centre.
- ✓ Foster children's friendships.
- ✓ Consider children's whole experience of school, including lunchtimes and using the toilets.
- ✓ Develop a shared understanding with parents of learning and social goals.
- ✓ Use assessment practices that recognise the situated nature of learning and the cultural construction of assessment practices.
- ✓ Provide opportunities for play that enable children to explore experiences and develop oral language.
- ✓ Understand the impact of rules and how they can support belonging, but can also constrain behaviour and create anxiety.

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Useful resources



Starting school: Te tīmata o te haere ki te kura

Read time: 42 min

Information for parents and caregivers of children with special learning needs. A Ministry of Education resource.

[Download](#) PDF



Transitions: Students at the centre

In this video, staff at the Mt Roskill campus explain how they create positive transitions between schools by placing students at the centre of the transition process.

[Visit website](#)

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