



Freshfield Nursery
School and
Freshfield 2 Year Olds

Induction and Transition Policy

Presented to Governors:	Feb 2021
Presented to Staff:	Feb 2021
Date for Review:	Feb 2023

Freshfield Nursery School Induction of Pupils and Transition Policy

At Freshfield Nursery School we endeavour to ensure a smooth induction for children when starting our school and a smooth transition from our 2 year olds to Nursery School and from Nursery School to Primary School. 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 induction or transition.

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

Aims

- To provide a smooth transfer from home or pre-school to 2 year olds and/or nursery school
- To provide a smooth transfer from 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 all transition stages and to ensure that the EYFS assessment information is effectively communicated

The following strategies are embedded in order to ease transition from 2 year olds to Nursery School:

- The 2 year old unit is part of our Garden Bubble. All Garden Bubble staff aim to establish relationships with all of the children (both 2 year olds and main nursery children) in the bubble.
- The 2 year olds spend some time with the older children in the main building and garden on a daily basis, and become very familiar with the main nursery environment.
- During the half term prior to their transition, 2 year old children have planned sessions in the nursery with their current group leader and their new group leader.
- Children's new group leaders visit the 2 year olds in their room.
- Close liaison takes place between staff and parents/carers to promote smooth transition and settling in.

The following strategies are embedded in order to ease transition from Nursery School to the child's new Reception class:

- The Headteacher ensures that links are made with the local primary schools.
- Staff ensure that activities in the nursery support the development of children's school readiness.
- Staff ensure that high levels of independence are encouraged to support effective transition.
- Staff use circle times, stories, group sessions etc. to discuss change, moving schools and new friends.
- We offer support from our Inclusion manager when parents/carers of children with SEND are visiting/liasing with possible Reception classes.
- Staff from receiving schools visit the children in our setting during the summer term, when circumstances allow.
- Some receiving schools offer induction visits.
- Any confidential information is passed to the receiving school and signed for to acknowledge receipt of this.
- Data from our school is shared with the receiving schools.

The following strategies are embedded in order to provide information in relation to transition and induction to parents/carers in both the 2 year old and nursery provision:

- We aim to offer parental visits when circumstances allow, and two school open days each year. In the event that we are unable to offer visits (e.g. during a pandemic), parents/carers are signposted to the virtual school tour on our website and offered telephone calls, email communication and online meetings instead.
- As soon as a place has been confirmed for a child, our school sends out a pack indicating the days and session times for attendance.
- Group leaders make welcome phone calls to parents/carers during the term prior to a child's start, so that information can be shared. They also upload video welcome messages onto Tapestry for each new child, to initiate communication and build relationships.
- When circumstances allow, we hold a garden party at the end of the summer term for children who are due to start in the September and their parents/carers.

At Freshfield Nursery School we recognise that all children may need support during transition and may take longer to settle. The staggered induction is flexible in order to meet the needs of all children and families.