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Curwen Primary School

Together Everyone Achieves More

EYFS Transition Policy
Spring 2025~~6~~
~~Next Review Spring 2026~~

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This document sets out the Policy for the Transition process within Curwen Primary School. It should be read in line with the EYFS Policy.

At Curwen Primary School we endeavour to ensure a smooth transition for pupils between pre-school and/or Nursery and the Reception class and also between EYFS and Key Stage 1.

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 so have therefore implemented a range of strategies and activities to ensure a smooth and happy transition.

Aims

- To provide a smooth transfer from home or pre-school to Nursery and/or from pre-school or Nursery to Reception and/or from Reception to Year 1 for both pupils and their parents/carers
- To ensure that the children's emotional well-being is a priority so that they feel happy, confident, enthusiastic and look forward to their new learning experience
- To ensure good communication between staff, parents and pupils
- To ensure that the children benefit from a structured visit programme in the summer term as well as mid-phase admissions
- To ensure parents are involved in, and are clear about, how the transition is managed so they are comfortable with the change and more able to support their children through the process
- To ensure that the EYFS assessment information is effectively communicated with both staff and parents
- To share Early Learning Goals and analyse individuals and groups with the new class teacher
- To plan learning that promotes progression and identifies next steps
- To swiftly identify and implement any changes that need to be made in light of arising issues
- To gather the children's views
- To provide a clearer understanding of the transition across the whole school

Nursery:
Parents/carers wishing for their child to start Curwen Nursery need to complete an application, they are then contacted and asked for a preference whether they would like a morning or afternoon Nursery place, however this is not guaranteed. If the child is eligible for 30 hours, they must provide their eligibility code and completed necessary paperwork. Prospective parents/carers are also invited to attend an information meeting and a home visit will be scheduled. This is usually arranged in the summer term prior to the child starting the

Nursery. This meeting is held for parents/carers in the summer term to share practical information such as school times and how parents/carers can help their child to settle in the Nursery as quickly as possible. Children are given the opportunity to visit the Nursery setting in order to 'stay and play' before their date of admission. Home visits are arranged and carried out by two staff members. These are scheduled over the summer term and mid-phase admissions are arranged according to the induction date.

The SENCo/EYFS Lead may liaise with outside agencies within the Borough in order to discuss any children with special needs and how the school can meet their needs. It is important all relevant medical information is shared with the school at the home visit.

Children may start school ~~in the autumn term~~ on a staggered intake. We request for parents to stay with the child at the initial session and if need be, recurring sessions after, until the child is settled to separate from their main carer. Each child is unique therefore their individual needs are always considered. Some children attend for a shorter period of time to begin with if they find the session too long. This will be continually reviewed and will always be to support the child's well-being and involvement. If the child continues on a longer transition this will be put in writing and signed by the EYFS leader and parents.

Reception:
Curwen Nursery children are supported and encouraged to visit the Reception classrooms during scheduled free-flow sessions and within Forest School sessions alongside the current Reception cohort. Reception teachers will teach in Nursery throughout the summer term. Curwen Nursery children and parents are invited to a Curwen lunch experience in the main dinner hall, to try lunches and observe the logistics of lunchtime. This aids a smooth transition into the Reception class. The EYFS staff work closely together in order to cater for individual needs and abilities to ensure children are familiar with all staff across the phase. Arrangements are also made with the local pre-schools and parents to schedule visits to Curwen with the children as well as Curwen staff visiting the children at their current setting. This enables the children to become familiar with the school and provides the staff additional opportunities to discuss the children's needs and levels of development.

A Reception information meeting is held in the summer term prior to the children starting school. Again, practical information is given to parents/carers as well as suggestions as to how they can help their child with the transition and help their child to be Ready for Reception. Stay and play sessions are scheduled for both new to Curwen children and families as well as the current Nursery cohort to engage and review the environment before starting in September.

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In September, all the new Reception children begin school in week 1, in line with the whole school. They begin with half days followed by full days where they can also have school dinners. Individual needs are considered and children may attend school on a part-time basis if it is more appropriate. This will be continually reviewed and always be to support the child's well-being and involvement. Children will have many opportunities to revisit the Nursery if needed and relevant information would have been shared between previous pre-schools, nurseries and parents. As mentioned previously, the SENCo/EYFS leader may liaise with agencies within the Borough in order to discuss any children with special needs and how the school can meet their needs. It is important all relevant medical information is shared with the school at the home visit or before they start the school. Similarly, to Nursery, a selection of children may continue on a staggered intake throughout the autumn term. These will be continually reviewed and discussed with parents and relevant staff.

Transition from Reception into Key Stage 1
We recognise that all children are unique and reach different stages of development at different times. Entry into Key Stage 1 is, therefore, an important transition. There are a number of strategies to ensure that the move from Reception into Key Stage 1 is a smooth and happy one for the children.

The following strategies are embedded in order to ease transition:

- A comprehensive transition plan is followed in the summer term (before entering Reception and Year 1)
- Circle time discussions about moving to Year 1 are done regularly
- Reception regularly visits the Year 1 learning environment
- Ensuring that in Year 1 there is an appropriate balance of adult-focus activities and child-initiated activities to support children's learning during the first half term

In order to further improve our transition arrangements, the following strategies will be implemented:

- Story times with the Year 1 teachers in the Summer term prior to Year 1
- A whole school transition ~~day~~ session in July to meet their new teacher
- Parents are invited to weekly open mornings in September in Year 1

The teaching and learning within the first half term reflects the cohort needs and supports the children's development. This is evaluated each year and appropriate adjustments are made where necessary. This is adjusted after discussions between the EYFS and Year 1 staff to ensure as smooth a transition as possible.

Equal Opportunities and Inclusion:
The school will follow guidance from the TTLT Equality Information and Objectives ensuring that there is equal opportunity for all including SEN, EAL, MASt (More Able Students) and minorities within the school.

To be read in conjunction with the following additional policies:
Teaching, Learning and Assessment
TTLT Inclusion
Other Curwen curriculum policies

This policy will be reviewed in ~~March 2026~~Spring 2028
Kate Sawyer (Assistant Head Teacher EYFS and ITT)
Spring 202~~6~~5

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