



## **PARACOMBE PRIMARY SCHOOL**

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Principal: Bill Lewis

# **Enrolment & Transition Policy**

## **Context**

The South Australian Government has announced that there will be a single annual intake of children into public preschools and schools. This will start in preschools from 2013 and in 2014 for schools.

## **Preschool - The Latest Facts**

- Preschool education is not compulsory.
- The preschool year is an entitlement for all four year old children in S.A.
- Children must be four years of age prior to commencing preschool.
- Children are currently entitled to up to 4 sessions a week for up to 4 terms of preschool education.
- Aboriginal children and children under the Guardianship of the Minister are able to commence preschool after their 3rd birthday and are eligible for two years of preschool.
- At Paracombe Primary School, we believe a full year of preschool is fundamental to each child's education.

## **School Entry**

- It is not compulsory to enrol a child until the child's sixth birthday.
- At present, children may commence school following their fifth birthday.
- The DECS Gifted Children and Students Policy is in place for the early entry into school for children with high intellectual potential.
- At Paracombe Primary School, students can be enrolled at the beginning of the term after their fifth birthday.
- Any exceptions to this must be discussed with the Regional Director or Assistant Regional Director.

Review Date: June 2012

# Enrolment & Transition Policy

## Paracombe Primary School



### Transition

“Children who make a smooth transition to school and experience early school success tend to maintain higher levels of social competence and academic achievement”. (1)

Research (2) acknowledges that there are key elements of effective transition programs which are that they:

- Establish positive relationships between children, parents and educators
- Facilitate each child’s development as a capable learner
- Are well planned and evaluated
- Are flexible and responsive
- Are based on mutual trust and respect
- Rely on reciprocal communication between participants
- Take into account contextual aspects of community, and of individual families and children within that community

The transition to school program at Paracombe Primary School consists of one session per week over a 5 week time frame. These visits are usually conducted during the last 5 weeks of the term prior to the child commencing full time schooling. The first visit is usually for a small amount of time (1 hour), with the time increasing each subsequent visit. A transition letter will be sent to relevant families in the first week of the term.

e.g.

Visit No.	School Week	Date	Time
1	6	Tuesday June 7	8.45 - 10.00 am
2	7	Tuesday June 14	8.45 - 11.00 am
3	8	Tuesday June 21	8.45 - 11.20 am
4	9	Tuesday June 28	8.45 - 12.50 am
5	10	Tuesday July 5	8.45 - 1.40 am

### References

1. Dockett & Perry 2002, Alexander & Entwisle 1988, Painta & Cox 1999, Luster & McAdo 1996, Shepherd & Smith 1989
2. *Starting School Research Project* University of Western Sydney Sue Dockett & Bob Perry



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Parent's Names  
Address  
Address  
Date

'Fulfilling your Child's Potential'

## Re - Term 2 Transition Visits

Dear \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_,

Congratulations on choosing Paracombe Primary School as \_\_\_\_\_'s school. Paracombe Primary School provides a safe, caring and stimulating learning environment where every student has the opportunity to achieve success.

It is our firm belief that education is a partnership between parents, teachers and students and we encourage all families to join us as part of our close-knit school community. Your support and involvement with the school will make a difference to your children's development during their important primary years.

The school provides a supportive environment for all students. We encourage and assist students to develop many kinds of knowledge, skills and attitudes. These will equip students with effective strategies to cope with the many changes and choices in our modern world. Paracombe Primary School is a place where children are guided in their personal development and given individual attention in order to help them achieve their personal best.

In regards to our transition program, I have outlined below our plan for Term 2, which of course is very negotiable.

If you have any questions regarding transition, or any other aspect of the school, please do not hesitate to contact Mary Diestel-Feddersen or myself.

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Mary Diestel-Feddersen

Bill Lewis

Junior Primary Teacher

Principal