

Why is Transition Important?

Moving on to P1

Information for Parents/ Carers

In Edinburgh, all Early Years settings and primary schools are working together on one big project using Michael Rosen's *We're Going on a Bear Hunt*. This means that no matter what nursery they are enrolled in, or what primary school they move into, all children will be familiar with the same story and will have shared experiences. Research shows that shared experiences are one of the ways that we can support children during times of transition.

Your child would normally have started their transition into primary school this term. Due to the current restrictions the activities that your child would have taken part in have altered.

If your child is enrolled in a Local Authority nursery, they will already have links with the receiving primary schools. If your child is enrolled in a Partner Provider nursery or a Childminder, they may not be in a position to support the transition.



Bear Hunt Edinburgh

To make sure that no child misses out we have created a website, www.bearhuntedinburgh.wordpress.com where we will share weekly ideas that you can use with your child to help them to feel positive about the move into school. This website is live as from 18/05/2020.

We will be working to spread the word and try to get as many people from across our communities involved as possible, grannies, neighbours, uncles and more!

The really important thing to remember for all parents is that what you are already doing with your children at home IS supporting their learning.

Research shows us that in the Early Years children learn best through real life experiences, like helping sort the washing, preparing meals and just talking. None of the activities suggested to engage children with the story are intended to be stressful or time consuming. We hope they are things that might already fit into your daily routine.

www.bearhuntedinburgh.wordpress.com

P1 Learning starts with **play!**

We are also working with all primary schools across Edinburgh to ensure that all children, regardless of which school they go to, will have the best start to primary 1. Your child's P1 classroom might look a bit different, with lots of opportunities for play and fun. The most important thing at the start will be making sure that everyone feels welcomed and finds something they enjoy at school.

Teachers and staff in schools are very aware of what a difficult time this has been for families. Your child will be supported and encouraged back into community life, with lots of chances to build relationships, make friends and play to learn.

We look forward to working with you, and please see your child's school website for more information.



Realising the Ambition [national practice guidance 2020]

8.8 Key Features of positive transitions practice from ELC to school

- practitioners/teachers who recognise that for every child the transition experience is unique to them, and who provide environments that are ready for children, that meet children's needs and the needs of their families*
- collaboration between practitioners and teachers which is focused on planning a continuous 'early level' curriculum experience*
- play pedagogy in the early stages of primary school, that is built on a clear and shared rationale and distributed leadership*
- a shared understanding between practitioners and teachers of the benefits of children's active engagement in planning their learning*
- induction programmes that value parents' knowledge of their child and the learning children bring with them to school*
- priming activities which promote parents' active participation during the transitions process rather than being viewed as passive recipients of information and rules to be followed*
- bespoke and enhanced transition arrangements for children with additional support needs*