

20<sup>th</sup> April 2020

Dear Parents,

We are currently underway with preparing for our Preschool children's transition to school this coming September. As you will appreciate this year we are having to approach this in a slightly different way to how we would usually.

We continually develop our in depth 'Transition Project' to ensure positive outcomes for your child and your family. We want to ensure that you are fully supported and confident during this period and ready to tackle the new and exciting times that starting school brings.

Ensuring that the transition from Stepping Stones to their reception class is streamlined and enjoyable is vital and furthermore at the heart of what we are aiming to achieve. We would like to work in partnership with you over the coming months leading up to their big day.

By supporting your child during their transition we aim to:

- Help them to develop a positive sense of themselves and others while preparing for change.
- Guide them through this transition developing their confidence to explore and discover what's in store in the next stage in their young lives.
- Form the foundations of positive relationships, contributing to your child's self-esteem, eagerness and willingness for the start of their journey through school.
- Emotionally prepare them to be able to understand their own feelings and how to manage these. Be safe in the knowledge that experiencing feelings is positive and part of growing up!
- Develop their confidence in their abilities and ultimately see this change as a positive experience, knowing they can make a positive contribution.

When in nursery we undertake a variety of activities and you can also get involved with these.

Here are a few examples:

- Role play, developing an area to reflect a more traditional school environment.
- Relevant stories (See our suggestions on our Book List).
- Further promoting self help skills and independence.
- Name recognition and extensive mark making (indoors and out).
- Looking at photographs of the child's school, teachers etc.

We also usually arrange visits from local reception class teachers and aim to visit each school to collect some photographs and meet with the Head and Reception Teachers. We are not yet sure if this will be possible but all schools have websites with photographs which can be used with your child instead.

We will write to your child's school to request further information and resources from them where possible. We will also share information on our transition process to further support their understanding and knowledge of our aims and objectives for effective transitions.

If you currently have another child attending the school you will be able to share the following with your child:

- Uniform information, such as pictures or a spare old uniform.
- Book bags and school books.
- The structure/routine of a school day
- Menus.
- Events.

We will be providing you and their school with a written developmental report for your child. We will also provide the school with a personalised '**All About Me**' booklet of their favourite songs, current interests, likes and dislikes; (we will involve you in these and include a copy with their report) which the school can then use to support them during their settling in period.

I hope you will join us in this mission to deliver our aims and objectives and all our Nursery Teams are looking forward to supporting your child and the whole family in the next step in their childhood!

Please complete the short form below and return this ASAP by email to your Nursery Manager.

Kind regards,

**Emma Moxon**

Senior Nursery and Training Manager  
Stepping Stones Group Ltd



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|----------------------------|--|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>Child's name:</b>       |  | <b>School name:</b>         |  |
| <b>School address:</b>     |  | <b>Additional comments:</b> |  |
| <b>Reception teacher:</b>  |  | <b>Head teacher:</b>        |  |
| <b>Nursery leave date:</b> |  | <b>School start date:</b>   |  |