

Positive Transitions in the Early Years



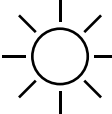

A Quick Guide for Parents and Carers





This guide is designed to provide clarity for parents and carers about your child leaving nursery and starting school. There are also links to ideas about how you can support prepare yourself and your child.

Guidance has been written for professionals to support consistent and effective transition planning for all children; which you can access here: [Positive-Transitions-in-the-Early-Years-9.2.22-2.pdf \(bristol.gov.uk\)](https://www.bristol.gov.uk/positive-transitions-in-the-early-years-9.2.22-2.pdf)









Transition Timeline for Parents and Carers

<p>Autumn Term  (preschool)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attend school open days and look at information on their websites Look at information about primary school admissions; how and when to apply. New reception primary school place (bristol.gov.uk)
<p>Spring Term </p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make the mainstream school application by the January deadline, even if your child is delaying or deferring entry (see further details below). The only exception is for children with special educational needs and disabilities who have a final Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP). EHCPs that require an 'Annual Review' should be scheduled to take place before 15th February. This should be organised by the SENCo at the nursery.
<p>Summer Term </p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accept offer of school place as soon as possible after they are sent out in April. You've a right to appeal to an independent appeal panel against the decision to refuse your child a place at your preferred school Primary school new reception admissions appeals (bristol.gov.uk) Attend 'graduation' events at nursery and 'welcome' events at school. Look at information from the school about what to expect and what is needed. Help prepare your child for school by supporting their independence, listening and sharing skills. (See links below). Some children may have transfer meetings for you to attend and additional transfer documents for you to contribute to. Think about how you will manage your child's settling in timetable.
<p>Autumn Term  (school)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Home visits from the school as these support children to feel more secure with their new key person. Share up to date information with your child's new key person about to best engage your child. Discuss a different settling timetable for your child if they need something different e.g. all mornings rather than changing sessions.

Also...

<p>Ongoing communication </p>	<p>Discuss your child's progress with their key person regularly during their nursery years before they start school. This will help to identify any emerging difficulties and to ensure that they are getting the right support to make progress.</p>
<p>Deferring or Delaying </p>	<p>Occasionally, parents/carers may want to consider the option to defer (start later in the school year) or delay (start in the following September) taking up a school place. It is important for early years settings and families to be aware that the implications of both deferred and delayed entry can be complex. This guidance aims to help explain what these terms mean and help families decide what is best for the child: Starting school later: reception class (bristol.gov.uk)</p>

Resources to support transition to school

	<p>Books to support starting school</p> <p>A list of books for children to support conversations about starting school and the emotions that might be involved can be downloaded from the Transition to School page of the Bristol Early Years website.</p>		<p>Eric's guide to potty training and Eric's guide for children with additional needs.</p> <p>Useful guides for settings and for families about how to support potty training with all children plus some additional guidance for how to best support children with additional needs.</p>
	<p>Important Dates for Admission to Primary Education; A leaflet for Parents & Carers</p> <p>A guidance document for families. When to apply and dates for offers and appeals for new reception primary places can be downloaded from the Transition to School page of the Bristol Early Years website.</p>		<p>Family Support Hubs</p> <p>Children's Centres offer a mix of universal and targeted family support services for a range of issues including education and care, parenting, domestic abuse, accessing health and social care services and are based in localities across Bristol.</p>
	<p>Helping children to look forward to school.</p> <p>A leaflet for parents/carers with lots of practical ideas to support school readiness can be downloaded from the Transition to School page of the Bristol Early Years website.</p>		<p>SAY provide an accessible, impartial and confidential SENDIAS service to empower parents/carers to play an active and informed role in their child's education. They help with complex legal processes, have a dedicated Information, Advice & Support (IAS) Line and monthly support group meetings.</p>
	<p>Supporting transition at home for children with SEND</p> <p>Information for parents/carers about practical ways to help prepare children with SEND for transition to school can be downloaded from the Transition to School page of the Bristol Early Years website.</p>		<p>FLORA (Families, Local Offer, Resources and Advice) provides information, advice, signposting and support for families who are in the early stages of identifying that their child may have additional needs. The FLORA team can help families navigate the services and support that is available to them, their family and child. Call: 0117 352 6020 Email: FLORA@bristol.gov.uk</p>