

# St. Joseph's School, Sorrento

## Transition Policy



Date Reviewed: June 2021

Next Review: June 2023

### **TRANSITION (Kinder to Prep and Year 6 to 7)**

#### **RATIONALE:**

##### **TRANSITION POLICY PRESCHOOL TO (FOUNDATION) PREP YEAR**

St. Joseph's School believes that it is important to ensure a successful transition between preschool and the foundation year. The school believes that the way to ensure this successful transition is by way of close personal contact with the prospective students and their parents, as well as between the St. Joseph's Prep teachers and preschool staff.

#### **AIM:**

- To ensure that there is continuity of care and educational provision from Preschool to the Primary school environment.
- To engage staff, students, parents and community members in the transition process.

##### **TRANSITION POLICY - YEARS 6 TO 7**

St. Joseph's School believes that transition from Year 6 to Year 7 must reflect current Middle Years of Schooling practice. It should acknowledge and address a time in student's lives when they are not only facing a more complex and diverse world but they are experiencing the rapid intellectual, physical and emotional development that characterises adolescence.

#### **AIM:**

- To ensure that there is continuity of care and educational provision from Primary to secondary schooling.
- To engage staff, students, parents and community members in the transition process.

#### **IMPLEMENTATION:**

##### **TRANSITION POLICY PRESCHOOL TO PREP YEAR**

##### ***Implementing a successful program should include the following:***

- Personal contact be established with preschool staff and maintained by the prep teacher/s
- Implementation of start Up program and reduced hours for new Preps in the first four weeks of term one
- Implementation of Buddy System ~ Prep and Year5/ 6
- Parents and children are to be made to feel welcome throughout their involvement with the school, by providing opportunities to visit and by encouraging them to come to special events at the school. i.e. Welcome Mass, Family Fun Night

- Open day / evenings be held to assist in communication and contact with prospective parents and students regarding further information about the school, classroom program and first day procedures
- Parent information evenings will enable prospective parents to be better informed of the program
- A program for parents will be planned to coincide with the school visits in term 4. The program will provide information & include speakers on topics relating to early childhood development.
- A Prep Information Booklet will provide further information about St Joseph's and starting school, local kindergartens and child care centres will receive flyers for display
- Additional support will be available for children who have not participated in pre-school transition program
- The first month of the school year will be designated for Prep interviews on a specified day
- Each week, during Term 4, students spend time in the learning space that they will be part of in the following year.

#### **TRANSITION POLICY - YEARS 6 TO 7**

- Links will be strengthened between those with key roles regarding the education and development of students in years 5 and 6 with a view to generate & sustain high quality middle schooling practice and link with Secondary Schools
- To assist students with learning a wide variety of teaching approaches accommodating individual learning styles, will enable engagement with students more effectively in their learning.
- Primary and Secondary schools should ensure that students have access to all key learning areas in a broad and comprehensive program. This will help them avoid premature specialisation and provide a comprehensive basis for subject choices in later years.
- Maintain visitations from secondary coordinators and year 7 student leaders.
- Professional Development will be available to all teachers interested in transition in the middle years.
- Access to assessment and reporting against the Victorian Curriculum will help facilitate the transition process by identifying individual needs.
- As part of the transition process teachers have a responsibility to encourage students to develop autonomy, problem solving strategies, adaptability, flexibility and skills to equip them for the future.
- Padua College guidelines and time lines for completing the transition process will be adhered to.
- In term 4, year 6 students will participate in a graduation program, culminating at the end of the year in a Graduation Night and Big Day Out celebrating and acknowledging their primary school years.
- Teachers will address transition issues with students to enhance children's confidence and reduce anxieties associated with moving to a different environment.
- Formal transition program will take place in term four for all year 6 students which will involve Orientation and Education Skills testing day.

- Any students with Additional learning needs will have access to a PSG meeting with Secondary school staff to discuss Individual Learning Plan and appropriate steps forward.

**PARENTS ROLE:** To support Graduation program and complete appropriate documentation for application to transition school.