

A strong start to school – Kindy

Supporting a strong transition to school during COVID-19

A positive start to school is important and depends on everyone working together to make it happen – families, community, early childhood service and the school team.

This resource hub has been developed to support schools with orientation and transition for students who are starting Kindergarten and are affected by the [COVID-19 restrictions and advice for schools](#).

Resources include schools sharing their stories and approaches, social story templates (for starting school and starting preschool), professional learning and podcasts. These resources may complement the positive transition practices that schools have already put into place to engage with children and families remotely.

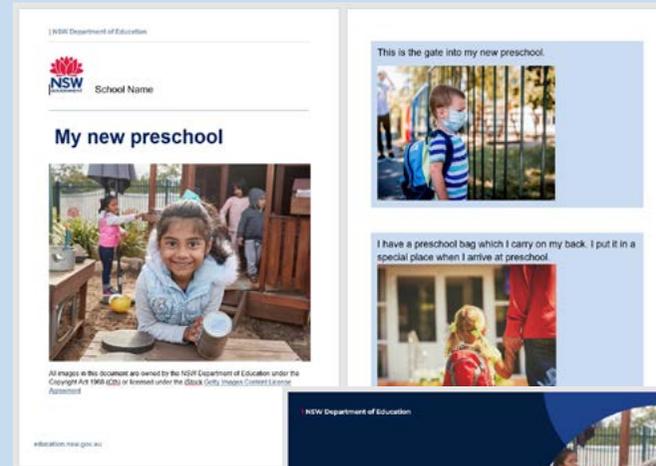


In this document

Social stories

A social story is an effective way to teach children how to navigate a new situation, such as starting school or preschool. Social stories can help children understand what to expect at school or preschool and they can be used to support orientation, which is particularly useful when children and families are not able to be on-site.

We prepared some templates and examples using Word, PowerPoint, Google Sites and Book Creator to get you started.



School stories

Five schools share strategies they are using to support transition to school for their 2021 Kindergarten cohort.



Orange Grove Public School is connecting with families through a Kindergarten Expo.



Tarro Public School is using online platforms and phone interviews.



Wahroonga Public School uses its transition network to build strong links.



Cessnock West Public School is conducting preschool visits and using technology.



Scone Public School has developed workshops and take home packs.



Professional learning and resources

Professional learning sessions and resources for teachers to support children and families with a strong and successful start to school.

Podcasts

What is transition?

Sue Dockett and Bob Perry reflect on 24 years of research and publication about transition to school.

Transition and COVID-19

Sue Dockett and Bob Perry discuss possible impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on children and families starting school.

Professional learning

Transition to school and COVID-19

This webinar explores transition to school practices in the context of COVID-19.

Supporting a play based approach to transition – Kindy

This professional learning will support teachers in planning and developing transition initiatives for the children transitioning to school.

Resources for families

The Resources for families page provides a range of resources that teachers can use to help families support their child's learning at home.

