

Positive Transitions in the Early Years



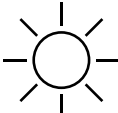

A Guide for Parents and Carers





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: [Transition to Reception - Bristol Early Years](#)







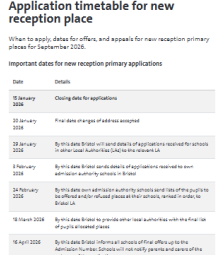

Transition Timeline for Parents and Carers

Autumn Term  (preschool)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Attend school open days and look at information on their websitesLook at information about primary school admissions; how and when to apply. New reception primary school place (bristol.gov.uk)
Spring Term 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Make the mainstream school application by the January deadline, even if your child is delaying or deferring entry. The only exception is for children with a final EHCP.EHCPs that require an 'Annual Review' should be scheduled to take place before 15th February. This should be organised by the SENCo.
Summer Term 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Accept offer of school place as soon as possible after they are sent out in April.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 timetable.
Autumn Term  (school)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Welcome 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....

Ongoing communication 	Discuss your child's progress with their key person regularly during their preschool year. This will help to identify any emerging difficulties and to ensure that they are getting the right support to make progress.
Deferring or Delaying 	Occasionally, parents/carers may want to consider the option to defer or delay 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)

Resources to support transition to school (Please click on thumbnails to access links to information)

	<p>Family Hubs Family Hubs 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>Eric's guide to potty training and Eric's guide for children with additional needs. 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>Ready for Reception: There are a number of key skills that will build children's confidence and independence, helping them feel emotionally and practically prepared to start school that will support children to have a successful start in reception. Supporting and monitoring the development of these together with families will make the journey to Reception as positive as possible.</p>		<p>Supporting transition at home for children with SEND 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>Bristol Parent Carers empowers families of children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) aged 0-25, by championing co-production, amplifying parent carer voices, and collaborating with local services to improve support systems.</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>Important Dates for Admission to Primary Education; A leaflet for Parents & Carers A guidance document for families. When to apply and dates for offers and appeals for new reception primary places.</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>

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