

Inclusive Practice

Transitions – What you need to know.



Quality transitions are a key part of a child's life journey. The type of transitions and changes children experience during their time with you will vary, however a planned and significant transition they will experience will be the transition to starting school. Getting it right is extremely crucial for children in the early years, and we must ensure that we are supporting a child's emotional well-being, sense of security, and confidence.

As early years practitioners, it is important that we have the skills and knowledge to provide all children with effective and smooth transitions by supporting them adjust positively to change and enable continuity in their learning and development.

“High quality transitions recognise the importance of feeling “known.” Key to high-quality transitions for all children in the early years is ensuring continuity between home, key people and all the settings that make up children's individual learning journeys”.

(Birth to 5 Matters)

It is important to remember that transitions in a child's early years go beyond just moving from nursery to school, they include every day and lifelong changes that can significantly impact their emotional well-being and development. Below are some examples:

- Moving rooms in a nursery
- Moving from one setting to another
- Moving house
- Welcoming a new sibling
- Managing bereavement
- Experiencing family break down
- Changes in staff/key person
- Moving to a new country
- Experiencing changes to their routine.

Leicester City Council have created a range of resources to support you in ensuring smooth and effective transitions for children in your care. These tools are designed to help you plan, communicate, and implement collaborative best practices, making the transition process as positive and seamless as possible for both children and their families.

Top Tips Q Card

To further help you implement high-quality transitions in your setting and support children with daily and life changes, we've put together our Top Tips Q card for you to explore: [Supporting transitions - top tips](#)

Transition form with guidance notes.

To help support with effective transitions the Local Authority worked in collaboration with the sector, to create a [Transitions Form](#) template for you to utilise should you wish. This was to offer some consistency in the information being shared regarding transitions and to reflect what both schools and providers indicated would be useful. To support completion of the form, there is a version available with clear [guidance notes](#).

Cluster Meetings

Join our Transition Cluster Meetings to ensure children are well supported as they move to school. By joining our cluster meetings, you will have the opportunity to liaise with other professionals in your local and have time to meet with providers/schools that you have children transitioning to/from. This will be a space to share key and valuable information about individual children – that can't always be captured on a form - to ensure a smooth transition. Information of when cluster meetings are taking place can be found on our website. Visit: [CPD opportunities | LCC Family Hub](#)

Useful Link:

[Transitions – Birth To 5 Matters](#)