POLICY STATEMENT- OUYEN P-12 COLLEGE

Transition Kindergarten to School

Rationale
Students commencing school are required to cope with a very different environment. It is our school’s responsibility to make this transition as enjoyable and trouble free as possible.

Aims
To provide a smooth and efficient transition from kindergarten to primary school with additional support provided to those who require it.

Implementation
- Ouyen P-12 College will appoint an experienced staff member to coordinate our prep transition program.
- Information will be exchanged about each child from the Kindergarten through formal reports from the Kindergarten Director and will include input from parents and students (see DEECD Birth to 8 Year initiative).
- Meetings will be arranged with parents of students with special needs to discuss appropriate programs and resource arrangements.
- A transition program will be organised with the kindergarten during semester 2 which allows children to be involved in making social story cards about school, and to have the opportunity to attend school on four other occasions during the semester.
- Visits will consist of one whole group visit for 90 minutes so that children can tour the school and learn about the facilities, meet the present Prep students and participate in a whole class story and activity.
- Any visiting artists or performances which take place at the Primary School and deemed suitable for Kindergarten aged children will be incorporated into the transition program.
- The final visit for transition will be on the whole school morning when Kindergarten students and their parents will (if possible) meet their new teacher and become familiar with the Prep classroom for the following year. This session will take place from 9.00am to 1.15 pm and will include lunch.
- The final transition visit will be followed by an Information Session for new parents explaining procedures and programs at the school. The procedure for the first day of school will also be explained in detail and an information booklet distributed.
- A morning tea will be provided for new parents on the first day of school to help parents become familiar with the school. On this day specialist staff will assist the prep teacher in the classroom.
- All parents will receive a detailed information package about the school in the first week of the year.
- Early in Term One a combined Prep/One/Two evening Information Session will be held to provide parents with information about timetables and programs.
- Opportunities will be provided for parents to visit classes or communicate with the school regarding their child’s progress at all times, and any issues that arise will be attended to as soon as possible.
- Prep students will not attend school on Wednesdays until after the long weekend in March.
- Each Prep student will be allocated a buddy from year 6 who will work with them to help to ensure a smooth transition throughout the first year of school.

Approved by College Council 10/10