



UPWEY SOUTH
Primary School

2020 Foundation Transition Program

Welcome to Upwey South Primary School!

As a community-minded school, we focus upon creating strong relationships within and between families across our learning community.

Therefore, the Foundation Transition Program will provide parents and their children with opportunities to engage in building connections, to prepare you for the commencement of the 2020 school year.

Our Transition Program contains both a student and parent element. Each session is designed to provide your child with the chance to familiarise with their learning environment, whilst you are given the opportunity to engage in meaningful discussions and activities with other members of our learning community.

As a school, we utilise the communication app **Compass** to send out reminders and information to families via smart devices, such as your mobile phone. Your unique user-id will be provided to you towards the end of our Transition Program. In the meantime, we have put together the following information:

- ✓ **Frequently Asked Questions- Foundation Transition and School Readiness**
- ✓ **Important Term One Dates for 2020 Foundation**

Please refer to the information over page, detailing the **2020 Foundation Transition Program**.

Should you have any questions or require further information, please contact the school directly.

We look forward to learning alongside you and your child in 2020 and beyond.

Upwey South Primary School

Please note: *As our school attracts families from many different kinder programs across surrounding suburbs, we aim to minimise our impact upon your child's kinder program. However, it is not possible to coordinate our Transition Program with all kindergartens involved. Based upon feedback from our 2019 Foundation families, we have provided some variance in the weekdays which will host this year's Transition Program.*

If you are unable to make a Transition Session, please notify the school office. The school will then organise for relevant information to be sent to you.

Transition Session One: Foundation Families, Fun and Familiarisation

When: Thursday 19th September 2:00pm-3:15pm

Session Focus: *Join us in the Junior building, as we have the opportunity to play in the Foundation playground, move through the classrooms, and engage in shared art/craft learning tasks based upon "getting to know each other".*

This session is targeted at Foundation students and their parents, with everyone able to join in the learning tasks together.

The aim of this session is to familiarise you and your child into the physical environment of the Foundation classrooms. It will also provide you with the opportunity to meet our amazing Visual Art teacher, Mrs Samantha White.

Transition Session Two: Planting the Seeds for Learning

When: Tuesday 15th October 9:15am-10:15am

Session Focus: *We will be getting our hands dirty planting grass-heads, to watch and grow over the coming transition sessions.*

What will students be doing?

With your support, we will encourage your child to work independently from you during this session. However, if you wish to remain and support your child this can be accommodated.

Your child will be provided with the chance to get to know others as we work together to plant seedlings, and make predictions about what might happen as they grow. Foundation teachers will also be utilising this session to observe the amazing things your child can possibly already achieve using their fine motor skills such as, writing, colouring, cutting and digging. Teachers will also be observing social interactions and looking at the manner with which the students can follow instructions to interact positively with others.

What will parents/ carers be doing?

Parents/ carers will hold a session in the Lifelong Learning Centre, meeting our school's psychologist and familiarising yourself with the "Parent/ Carer Need to Knows" of beginning school, as well as covering off the basics of our "School-Wide Positive Behaviours for Learning Framework".

Transition Session Three: **Getting in Touch with Technology and Talking**

When: Wednesday 23rd October 9:15am-10:15am

Session Focus: *This is the first session in which our 2020 Foundation students will have the opportunity to learn alongside teachers and a selection of buddy mentors. Students will be divided into two groups.*

What will students be doing?

In this session, your child will check-in to see how their grass-head has grown. We will then engage with some basic programming, as the students “have a go” at directional coding with Beebots. Students will work with an older buddy mentor, with the aim of coding the Beebot to travel from its hive to their grass-head to collect pollen.

Students will also have the opportunity to join in a modified Japanese session, during which they will learn about the important role nature plays in Japanese culture. This will also provide your child with exposure to some of the exciting tasks they will do with our amazing Japanese teacher, Sensei Masae Uekusa.

What will parents/ carers be doing?

Whilst the students are engaging with their learning, the parents/carers will be having morning tea at an information session based on “*Early Years Reading and Writing*”, to be held in the Lifelong Learning Centre.

Transition Session Four: **Movement and Music**

When: Thursday 7th November 2:00pm-3:15pm

Session Focus: *After checking in on the growth of our grass-heads, students will have the opportunity to join in a Music and Movement session, divided into two groups.*

What will students be doing?

Your child will have exposure to some of the exciting tasks they will do with our amazing Performing Arts teacher, Mrs Penelope Lang. They will sing songs, make music, and perhaps even dance.

Students will also have the opportunity to meet with Mr Justin Scicluna, our Physical Education teacher, as they engage in a physical education session in the gymnasium. This session will provide your child with the opportunity to demonstrate all of the amazing things they can do with their gross-motor skills, whilst continuing to show the teachers how they positively interact with others.

What will parents/ carers be doing?

Whilst the students are engaging with their learning, the parents/carers will be having morning tea at an information session based upon Foundational mathematical concepts, titled “*Early Years Numeracy- patterns, perceptions and parallels*”, to be held in the Lifelong Learning Centre.

Transition Session Five: **All About Me!**

When: Thursday 21st November 2:00pm-3:15pm

Session Focus: *Wearing a dress-up to school! Wow!*

Come along wearing your favourite dress-up, colour, shoes, hat or costume.

What will students be doing?

Your child will have the opportunity to work within the classroom, as we discuss what makes each of us unique. Discussions will centre around what makes a good classmate, our shared interests, and what might be the same/ different with our likes/ dislikes.

What will parents/ carers be doing?

Whilst the students are engaging with their learning, the parents/carers will be having morning tea at an information session to be held in the Lifelong Learning Centre. During this session, we will cover the school's Emergency Management Plan, meet the Extend OSHC staff, and learn about the OSHC Program. We will provide you with an opportunity to ask any unanswered questions.

Parents will also be provided with their Compass log-in details, classroom teacher's name, and details of their Early Years Assessment Booking.

Transition Session Six: **A Teddy-Bear Picnic**

When: Friday 29th November 9:15am- 12:30pm

Session Focus: *Today is the first session in which parents may drop their children off at the classroom and head out for the morning. Of course, you are also welcome to stay if you wish.*

Our 2020 Foundation students are asked to bring their favourite teddy to school for a special visit! At today's session we will be learning alongside our buddy mentors, as we engage in learning tasks together.

Your child will also get the opportunity to play in the yard during a modified recess break, under the direct guidance of our junior school staff.

This session concludes with a Teddy Bear Picnic under the trees, as we all eat lunch together before being collected by our parents.

Note: Your child will be required to pack a school bag for this session, with a morning snack, lunch food, and water bottle.

Should you have any questions or comments, please contact the school directly.