



Thorndown Pre-School

THORNDOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL AND THORNDOWN PRE-SCHOOL

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Transition to School Questionnaire

Thank you to all of you who completed our 'Transition to School' questionnaire. The response was fantastic and we are going to use this to inform our future transition to Thorndown Primary School.

Key Messages and Action Points

- Stay and Play sessions allowed the children to familiarise themselves with the adults and environment. They also gave parents the opportunity to ask questions. Due to responses from you, we intend to make some of these on different days each week to allow flexibility for working parents.
- 79% of parents said the part time start in September suited their child, 11% left this section blank and 10% said this arrangement did not suit them as a family. The main concern was arranging child care and we understand that child care can be challenging to arrange, with different pick up times. We feel that this staggered intake is necessary to allow teachers to take part in Home Visits and stay with your children during their lunch hour during the second week (this was also an area of worry for some parents). Although many children do attend nursery full time, the transition to school can be exhausting with the many new experiences and learning times.
- We will continue to send home a Weekly newsletter to keep you updated on everything that is going to be happening in school the following week. If you would like more detailed information about experiences your child has been having please come in and look through their Learning Journey, where you will see the activities they have been doing with the adults. If you are unable to come in, pop a note in your child's Reading Diary and we will send the Learning Journey home for an evening.
- All the comments from parents who had requested a Home Visit were very positive, with many parents saying it was reassuring being able to talk about concerns. Children sharing their personal environment and toys helped the children to begin building relationships with their adults immediately. We intend to continue offering these to parents next year.



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- From your feedback it is clear that the Friday 'drop in' session supported children's transition to school, by allowing them to re familiarise themselves with the classrooms after the 6 weeks holiday. We will continue to offer this session.
- Many of you said how useful the child friendly booklet was. This contained pictures of the adults and a list of things to bring to school. We will keep this the same.
- Next year we intend to send home an Early Years 'glossary'. This has been prompted by feedback from parents asking for clarification about some of the terminology we use. This glossary will also include terms you may hear child use, such as; thinking table and digraphs.

I would also like to take the opportunity to thank you all for the kind, personal comments you wrote on these sheets. We love teaching your children and these wonderful comments added an extra spring to our step!

Thank you for your continuing support.

Best wishes,

Lucy Hamilton
EYFS Team Leader