



### A P-12 SCHOOL

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## **TRANSITION FROM PRE-SCHOOL TO PRIMARY SCHOOL CORYONG COLLEGE**



# The Importance of a Comprehensive Transition Program.

At Corryong College, we believe that the transition of children from pre-school to primary school is extremely important. When these children first come to our school they have a huge advantage if they can make some sense of the routines and procedures. Our Transition Program aims to give children an awareness of the school and its surroundings so they feel confident and safe to be at Corryong College.

Some of the major issues that need to be considered when a child moves from pre-school to primary school include:

- New academic challenges
- Strange buildings and classrooms
- New school and teacher expectations
- Acceptance into a different peer group
- Personal emotional adjustments
- Changes to the role and involvement of parents.
- How well children make this transition can be an important factor in determining their future success at school.



# The Transition Program

The transition program at Corryong College aims to foster a sense of confidence and security for both parents and children that will enhance the children's ability to grow and learn in a new educational setting. The importance of quickly establishing a partnership between home, pre-school and Corryong College is the key factor in this successful transition program.

The transition program assists Corryong College, Corryong Pre-School, the new students and the parents in a number of ways.

## Corryong College

The transition program assists Corryong College by:

- Enhancing the school image as one that genuinely cares for every child and is aware of the needs of children starting school for the first time.
- Improving communication with Corryong Pre-School. This partnership is reflected in Junior Campus programs which give continuity - e.g. continuing the importance of play and providing opportunities to address behavioural and other considerations that may impact upon the child's adjustment to school.
- Increasing the teachers' awareness of early childhood development by spending time with the Pre-School Director, assistants, parents and most importantly, the children.
- Providing an opportunity for classroom teachers at Corryong College to get to know the children who are coming to the school next year.
- Giving greater insight into the new group dynamics and therefore ensuring that class groupings are cohesive.





## New Students

The transition program assists the children to:

- Adjust to Corryong College and its environment alongside their established playmates.
- Quickly develop familiarity with the new environment in the classroom and in the schoolyard.
- Adapt to daily school routine.
- Overcome feelings of insecurity and loneliness by having a special 'buddy'.
- Develop a positive attitude to starting school through visits to Corryong College for special occasions and orientation day activities.
- Trust older children in the playground.
- Communicate their feelings to older children and teachers with confidence.



## Parents

The Transition Program assists parents of children beginning school by:

- Reassuring them that their child is being individually cared for and is safe and happy at school.
- Treating their child as a special individual.
- Providing a safe and happy environment.
- Providing another contact in the school community for new parents.
- Providing them with an opportunity to better understand the Corryong College environment and how the school day works.
- Preparing them for the emotional separation that can occur on the first day of school.

- Allowing them to better understand and appreciate how overwhelming school can be for young children.
- Giving them access to practical information about Corryong College and the child's needs when starting school.

### Pre-school Director.

The Transition Program assists the Pre-School Director by:

- Improving the liaison with Corryong College by -
  - visiting the school
  - sharing and working with the junior campus teachers
  - establishing a contact person within the school
  - enhancing professional development opportunities
- Giving greater information about the Corryong College curriculum.
- Providing the director with information that can be used to prepare the children for school.
- Creating a comfortable relationship where the director and assistants are encouraged to observe the continued progress of children once they enter Corryong College.

At Corryong College we endeavour to make the transition from Pre-School as smooth and happy as possible. Our teams of teachers are happy to talk to parents about their concerns and look forward to meeting new families.



We enjoy making pancakes and then we get to eat them.



We are the lunch monitors and take the orders to the office.





We take part in community activities like The Man from Snowy River Festival.

Primary school is a natural progression in our lives and most children are eager and excited about the prospect of going to school. As experienced teachers we acknowledge that all children develop at their own rate and we base our curriculum on this fact. With this in mind, don't panic if your child doesn't know the ABC or how to count to 10. It is far more important that your child has had practice relating to unfamiliar adults and children than being able to recite the names of rectangles, squares and circles, although there is a place for this also.



Now what's next!!

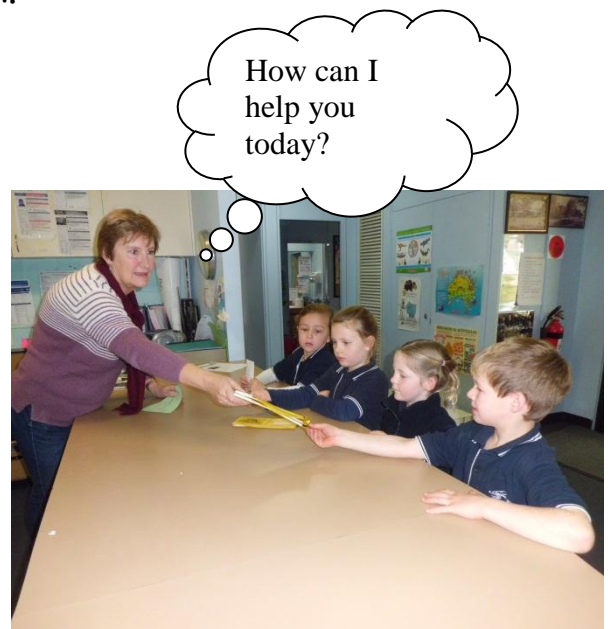


Well done

So if you are considering sending your child to school next year the following indicators will give you an idea of whether or not your child is ready for this significant step. In point form it is ideal if your child starting school is:

- Able to build a relationship with an unknown adult i.e. the teacher. Know how to approach and interrupt politely. Make eye contact when talking, ask for help or permission. Listen to and follow spoken instructions.
- Make friends with unfamiliar children. Accept rebuffs without loss of self-esteem.
- Share ideas and objects. Take turns. Assert a point of view. Listen to the views of others.
- Start to learn how to find solutions to conflict. Shrug off teasing.
- The physical skills will continue to develop, but your child will benefit if able to hold a pencil correctly, recognise his/her name, use scissors and listen quietly.

The teachers at Corryong College recognise the importance of each and every child as an individual and will be happy to work as part of the team to ensure that all children have a happy and stress free transition.



CORRYONG COLLEGE

# **BUDDY PROGRAM**

The buddy program has been operating at Corryong College for a number of years and has ensured that children starting school for the first time have a special friend.

The Buddy Program assists new children to the school to:

- Quickly become familiar with the school environment.
- Adapt to daily routine more easily.
- Overcome feelings of insecurity and loneliness by having a special 'buddy'.
- Develop a positive attitude to starting school through Pre-School visits and orientation day activities.
- Trust older students in the school ground.
- Gain confidence to communicate their feelings to older students.

The Buddy Program assists the Grade 3 children by:

- Preparing the children for a leadership role in Grade 4.
- Developing leadership skills and becoming positive role models.
- Encouraging them to be more aware of the needs of others and responding to these needs.
- Improving their self esteem by accepting responsibility.
- Enjoying visits to Pre-School centre and participating in the activities.
- Enhancing the image of the school.



The Buddy Program begins in term 4. The Grade 3 children visit the Pre-School to meet their buddies.

During Term 3, preschool students will have a "special friend" who is a current Year 4 student. During Term 3 and 4 the current Year 3 students will be trained in a special "buddy" program.

During the Transition Program the Buddies play an important role assisting the teachers and helping the pre-schoolers become confident and comfortable with their future new environment.

### Prep class 2013



In closing, we hope this booklet provides parents of 2014 school starters with answers to some of their questions. The teachers look forward to meeting you and your children in the near future.



### Pre-school to Prep open Transition at Corryong College.

Any child eligible to attend school in 2014 is welcome to attend all or some of these sessions. The sessions will be run by Claudia Byrne. They will be held in the prep room. If you are bringing your child to these sessions please register their names at the Junior Campus office. Children will be able to travel home on their relevant bus if they have parental permission. All parents are invited for a cuppa and afternoon tea at the first session. Any new parents may like to have a tour of our school during this time. Other dates and times for transition are as follows;



## Dates for Pre-School to Prep to transition 2013.

- Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2.00p.m. - 3.20p.m. New prep parents invited for a cuppa in the staffroom.
- Monday 5<sup>th</sup> August 2.00p.m. - 3.20p.m.
- Monday 19<sup>th</sup> August 2.00p.m. - 3.20p.m.
- Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2.00p.m. - 3.20p.m.
- Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2.00p.m. - 3.20p.m.
- Monday 14<sup>th</sup> October 1.00p.m. - 3.20p.m.
- Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October 1.00pm - 3.20p.m.
- Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November 1.00p.m. - 3.20p.m.
- Monday 25<sup>th</sup> November 1.00p.m. - 3.20p.m.
- Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December 9.00am - 2.00pm



There will be a formal information evening for parents on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30p.m. for a formal information session. Any parent wishing to arrive at 7.00p.m. will have the opportunity to speak with the prep teacher - Mrs. Claudia Byrne.



We love our fruit breaks.