**Tannochside Primary School**

**Nursery to Primary 1 Transition Project**

**Rationale**

Transitions are the moves children and young people make from nursery to school, from stage to stage and through Curriculum for Excellence levels. Transitions are part of everyone’s life. When transitions work well, they help children and young people to develop confidence and acquire skills to manage future changes in their lives. For some children transitions can be challenging and support from parents and school staff can help the transitions run more smoothly. School staff will work closely with nursery staff and parents to ensure that information about each child’s learning and achievements is passed on. Moreover, at Tannochside, parents, feeder nurseries and school staff will work collaboratively on a project based on the story ‘The Everywhere Bear’ to support the wellbeing of all children transitioning into Primary 1 at Tannochside. This will help ensure that their learning and development continues without interruption. It helps children at all transitions if staff and parents:

• Talk with them about what is going to happen

• Encourage them to talk about any concerns or anxieties

• Listen carefully to their concerns and consider sharing them with other relevant people

• Help them become familiar with the new setting and what will be expected of them.

*Scottish Government Curriculum for Excellence Fact-file – Transitions June 2011*

**Aims**

 • To help children become familiarised with their new educational setting.

 • To support children to foster positive relationships within their Primary 1 class and across their school.

 • To develop communication between the school, parents and feeder nurseries to help alleviate children’s potential anxiety.

• To ensure that we ‘Get it Right for Every Child’ by supporting their wellbeing during a period of change.

 • To work in partnership as a community to ensure the smooth transition for children from Nursery to Primary

**Nurture**

At Tannochside Primary School we aim to provide a nurturing ethos for the whole school community. We follow the 6 key principles of Nurture in our practice:

***The Six Principles of Nurture****:*

NP1.       Children's learning is understood developmentally

NP2.       The classroom offers a safe base

NP3.       The importance of nurture for the development of wellbeing

NP4.       Language is a vital means of communication

NP5.       All behaviour is communication

NP6.       The importance of transition in children's lives

**We have given careful consideration to the following:**

* **Consulting with our parents/carers:** We hope that our Transition Project will help to reassure our parents and answer any questions they may have regarding their child starting Tannochside Primary School. We always strive to foster strong, supportive links with all parents/carers and children.  NP4

* **Transition Documentation:** We will liaise closely with nursery staff within our setting and in our feeder nurseries to ensure we gather as much relevant information about our children as possible. Staff will complete transition documents about all children which will be shared with school staff and other feeder schools.  NP6, NP4

* **Having friends in the same class** helps children adjust to the demands of the new setting and can possibly help compensate for other factors that can make children more vulnerable during transition. We will work closely with nursery staff and parents to ensure we take into consideration friendship groupings when organising our P1 classes. NP3

* Helping your child to**become familiar** with our setting by providing virtual photo books and video tours of key features of the school/classroom e.g. entrance, toilets, pegs, break out area, playground, a selection of toys/equipment available by providing these on our Twitter website. NP6, NP2

* **Transitional objects:**We understand and appreciate the role that **comforters** play in helping children to relax in new settings. ‘Virtual’ transitional objects can also convey equally important reassurance, helping parents explore the ways that they can make use of these powerful images to strengthen connection and support their child with separation: e.g. A kiss or a smile to keep in the child’s pocket for when it’s needed, or an imaginary ‘heart string’ that stretches from the parent to the child and can’t be broken even though it stretches all the way from home to the classroom! NP6, NP3

* **Hellos and goodbyes:**  We recognise that this is the time when parents/carers will need to feel most connected with and supported by our staff, especially at this challenging time. Staff at Tannochside demonstrate empathy and understanding towards all and we work well with parents to reduce anxieties and encourage smooth transitions for parents and children. NP6, NP5, NP2

* **Predictability and routines**will be important, especially during the settling in phase without too many interruptions to sustained play or too many breaks for adult-driven tasks, such as snack times, assemblies and whole-class discussions. NP2, NP6

* **Listening to children** - ask gentle questions, provide opportunity for children to voice concerns. Incorporate ideas and feelings about change and transition into their play, through story and drama, role play and in their ‘small world’ play. Classic stories and fairy tales that reflect human experience of change and uncertainty and explore what it feels like to find yourself in a place, conquering your fears and persevering through adversity can be helpful springboard in this regard. Therapeutic stories such as those written by Margot Sunderland can also be similarly be helpful. NP5, NP4

* The importance of a**cknowledging feelings for children’s emotional wellbeing**. NP5, NP3, NP4

**Tannochside Transition Plan:**

We have created a transition project based around the popular children’s story ***The Everywhere Bear,*** written by Julia Donaldson and illustrated by Rebecca Cobb. This involves the school working with feeder nurseries and parents/carers to allow children the opportunity to participate in planned activities in nursery and at home, as well as school visits, and access to videos posted on Twitter to help create smooth transitions into primary school.

**Virtual Tours and Videos**

We will post virtual tours of our school, classrooms and other key areas to ensure your child is familiar with their new school environment. These will include our Primary 1 teachers.

**Twitter:**

Please join our Twitter Page @TPSP1Transition for updates from the school and videos.

Please click the link or QR code below to access The Everywhere Bear story:

[The Everywhere Bear Storytime - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qcR1UZhpj7o&t=38s)



|  |
| --- |
| **Tannochside Primary School Nursery to Primary 1 Transition Project** |
| **Based on the book ‘The Everywhere Bear’** |
| **National Improvement Key Priority:** Improvement in young people’s health and wellbeing**HGIOS4 and HGIOELC Quality Indicators:** 2.3, 2.4, 2.5, 2.6, 3.1 |
| Activities Overview: |
| **Week:** | **Week Beginnning: 29th May** | **Week Beginning: 5th June** | **Week Beginning; 12th June** |
| School: | School Visit Wednesday 31st May 3:15-4pm. Pupils: in class with P1 teacherParent Workshop (hall): Literacy  | School Visit Wednesday 7th June 3:15-4pm. Pupils: in class with P1 teacherParent Workshop (hall): Numeracy | School Visit Wednesday 14th June 11-12:15pm – The children will eat lunch in the school dining hall with parents. Parent Workshop (hall): HWB |
| Twitter:@TPSP1Transition | Video tour of the school and videos of P1 Staff and Management Team posted on Tannochside P1 Transition Twitter page and the school website.  | P1 teaching staff read a book to children and post this on the P1 Transition Twitter page via a You Tube Link.  | Video from SLT answering any questions. |
| Nursery: | Staff to read the story ‘Everywhere Bear’ with their group in nursery and post online. Teddy Bear to be displayed in the nursery. Everywhere Bear to visit school and children to take photos of it. | Staff to lead children in learning nursery rhymes ‘Around, around the Garden’ and ‘Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear’.Videos of children taking part in this can be posted online. Children can take part in making their own bear mask using a variety of materials. The mask can then be used in role play activities  | Nursery Teddy Bear’s Picnic:Children involved in prepping snack in nursery for the Teddy Bear’s picnic which will be held in the nursery garden. Children can wear their bear mask to the Teddy Bear’s picnic.  |
| Parent/Carer: | Follow P1 Transition page at @TPSP1TransitionParents encouraged to find a teddy bear at home and take the bear on adventures with them. Perhaps when out a walk or at the park. Parents can post these pictures on Twitter. Staff can use these pictures as part of child’s learning journal. Children can make a boat using household items that will float in the sink or bath.  |  Talk about your child’s bear adventures. Gather some teddy bears together and use household materials to make a den.  | Parents can spend some time in their garden or local park observing the different birds, what they look like and how they behave. Parents can use recycled materials to create bird feeders for their gardens. Pictures can be posted to Twitter.  |