

## TRANSITION TO KINDERGARTEN

### AUTHORISATION

<b>POLICY TYPE:</b> <i>(Council or Operational)</i>	Operational
<b>POLICY LOCATION:</b> <i>(eg. Corporate, Engineering, etc.)</i>	Community Services
<b>RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:</b> <i>(by position title)</i>	Children Services Coordinator
<b>AUTHORISED BY:</b> <i>(GM or Director Title)</i>	Director Corporate and Community Services
<b>DATE ADOPTED:</b>	17 August 2021
<b>ADOPTED BY:</b> <i>(Manex or Council)</i>	Manex
<b>MINUTE NO:</b> <i>(If required)</i>	
<b>REVIEW DUE DATE:</b> <i>(Four years unless statutorily required sooner)</i>	July 2023
<b>REVISION NUMBER:</b>	

### DOCUMENT HISTORY

<b>VERSION NO.</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION OF AMENDMENTS</b> <i>Include names of former policies that this policy will replace if applicable</i>	<b>AMENDED BY</b> <i>(Where required)</i>

### REVIEW OF THIS POLICY

This Policy will be reviewed within two (2) years from the date of adoption or as required in the event of legislative changes. The Policy may also be changed as a result of other amendment that are to the advantage that Council and in the spirit of this Policy. Any amendment to the Policy must be by way of a Council Resolution for all policies categorised as "Council" policies or the approval of the General Manager for all policies categorised as "Operational" policies.

## 1. Purpose:

Starting school is a significant milestone in the life of any child and family. The Service supports continuity of learning and transitions for each child by sharing relevant information, clarifying responsibilities and by developing strategies that support a positive transition to formal schooling.

## 2. Scope:

This policy document applies to all staff and Educators of the Bland Shire Council Children Services Unit and Bland Temora Family Day Care, along with children and families enrolled with Bland Shire Council Children Services Unit.

## 3. Outcomes:

To ensure Bland Shire Council Children Services Unit recognise the importance of a positive transition to Kindergarten in a child's life. Educators support children and families to make the transition process positive and informative by liaising with local schools and the wider community.

## 4. Roles and Responsibilities:

### The Educational Leader will:

- Provide professional development and/or information opportunities on school readiness to families and Educators.
- Liaise with local schools, agencies, Educators and families to develop a smooth and comprehensive transition to kindergarten.
- Arrange a transition to school forum/discussion evening to provide information.

### Educators will:

- Encourage children to talk about school by exploring various elements of the school experience.
- Consider family priorities and any concerns about the transition process. Each families' cultural and linguistic needs will be respected, along with family diversity.
- Develop a program to support a smooth transition for children from the education and care environment to the school environment.
- Consider the individual rest needs of children in the months prior to commencing kindergarten and whether a reduction in sleep times may prepare some children for the kindergarten routine. Children will continue to have quiet rest periods during the day.
- Focus on kindergarten readiness in all areas of development during the year prior to kindergarten. Children will be encouraged to extend their knowledge via their interests and Educators will assist children to challenge their skills.
- Discuss children's development and readiness for kindergarten with families.
- Support each family's decision about when to send their child to kindergarten.
- Develop an information package for families about the transition to kindergarten.

## 5. Legislation and Supporting Documents:

Education and Care Service National Law 2010

Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011

Guide to the National Quality Framework 2018

Belonging, Being and Becoming: The Early Years Learning Framework for Australia.

**6. Relationship to Community Strategic Plan:**

This Policy supports Council's Delivery Program Strategy DP4.2 Provide quality, accredited and affordable Education and Care Services within Bland Shire and surrounds (Bland Preschool, Family Day Care, Mobile Resource Unit, Vacation Care and Toy Library services)

**7. Attachments:**

N/A