



May 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

The year is fast drawing to a close and the vast majority of your children will be looking forward to moving on to the next stage of their journey in education, but for some children, transitions can be challenging.

At York Road Nursery we are passionate about ensuring transitions are as smooth as possible for each and every child. With this in mind we would like to let you know what we hope to provide to promote this smooth process for the children (**COVID restrictions dependent**). Zoom calls have already taken place for parents of schools with more than 4 children transferring and for schools with 4 or less children transferring Key Teachers will enable the sharing of email/phone numbers between Parents.

- Reception Teachers will be invited to York Road Nursery School to meet the children in their 'safe' environment.
- York Road Key Teachers will hold 'Story Group' Sessions for children to –
  - get together in their new school groups to see other children who are going to the same school and to start to become familiar with those faces
  - look at school uniforms
  - read stories about starting school
  - share experiences they may already have of school (from older siblings, cousins or friends).
  - talk about visiting their school (some schools may invite children in for story sessions, or to experience a lunch – but not every school, your child's new school will let you know what they do).

If the children are still in bubbles then the 'Story Group' sessions will still go ahead but in their own key colour groups and without meeting other children going to the same school. The last Story Group will be on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> July following the Hertfordshire Transfer Day on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> July (for those schools who take part), giving any child who visited a school the previous day the opportunity to talk about their experience.

- A more personalised transition for children with SEND.
- Dedicated Transitions section on the school website [www.yorkroad.herts.sch.uk](http://www.yorkroad.herts.sch.uk) go to 'Transitions' and 'Transition from York Road to Primary School' where you will find the following leaflets from Herts for Learning in support of transitions:
  - Section 45: 'I'm starting school' – ways to help and support your child to be confident, curious and ready to learn more
  - Section 46: Here I come I am starting school – a Hertfordshire guide to support families and children as your child starts school
  - Section 47: Parent/Carer's Guide to Home Visits – this will help you if your new school undertakes home visits (not all school do)
  - Section 48: Life skills for little ones, Starting School or Nursery – a list of picture books that help support your child starting school
  - Section 50: Bookstart Take time to read Reception & When we visit the library together
  - Section 53: Supporting your child's independence as they start school – links to further guidance for parents/carers
  - Section 54: Transition Supplement
  - Section 59: Getting Ready for School
  - Section 60: Fifty ideas of things to do before I start school (these are just ideas, you are not expected to do all of them)
  - Section 61: Before I go to school

The schools where your children are transferring to will notify you of what they do for Transitions, you can also look out for information on their website. Also, they may have a Facebook page with information and parent groups you can access.

Your children are all amazing and resilient and will take everything in their stride. For those who are a little shy it really will not take long before they are settled and flying at their new schools.

Finally, a reminder after half term to look out on Tapestry and/or the newsletter for the last date you can upload your own observations or photos into your child's journal and information on downloading your child's journal at the end of the year.

Best Wishes

All the staff at York Road Nursery School

May 2021