

# TRANSITION TO SCHOOL AT NGS



At Newcastle Grammar School relationships are at the core of transition to school experiences and at the heart of what we do.

A successful transition to school program builds and strengthens relationships between the child, parent, early learning service and school.

Transition to school is not a single event, but a dynamic process of both change and continuity of learning that occurs over time (Dockett et al 2017, Moyle 2019: Sayers et al 2012).

NGS transition to school priorities:

**1. Each child is unique and known** – A relationship is formed in the year prior to school with our Preschool Liaison Officer. The transition to school process commences more than a year before school starts.

**2. Community Partnerships** – Partnerships are made with community early learning services that children attend with term visits from the Preschool Liaison Officer to assist with transition. Continuity of learning is promoted through pre literacy programs at partnership services.

**3. Opportunities to connect** – Experiences are created to build connection between children, families and school educators to develop a sense of belonging in the school environment.

Friendships are fostered and a sense of community is built during term time activities such as performances, school transition talks, orientation sessions and family events.

**4. Promoting relationships with senior students** – Relationships are built with senior students through literacy programs with the preschool children. Connections with future buddies are created during this program.

**5. Individualised Orientation sessions for children with additional needs** – Children with additional needs are supported by the Head of Learning Enhancement and Preschool Liaison officer with an individualised transition plan. Additional supported orientation sessions can be arranged to promote inclusion.



**6. Connecting and supporting families** – Family connections are made through term events and informal social events held throughout the year prior to Kindergarten for children and parents to meet and connect.

**7. Wellbeing and a sense of belonging** – Through the program, our aim is that all families and children will feel a sense of familiarity and belonging to the school community and each other well before the start of Kindergarten.

**8. High expectations and equity** – We work alongside all families to provide information around transition to school. We recognise children’s strengths and believe that they are capable of great growth. NGS sets high expectations and we appreciate the support of families working towards the same goals.



