



Gumeracha Primary School

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**Government
of South Australia**

Department of Education
and Children's Services

PRE-SCHOOL – RECEPTION TRANSITION POLICY

Admission for Reception Students

Intakes for children starting school for the first time are on the first day of each term.

Children must have turned five before or on this date. If a child turns five after the first day of a term they will begin school on the first day of the following term.

Children are legally required to attend school from their sixth birthday. Once they are enrolled, they must then attend regularly.

Junior Primary Years

With the four term school year children now spend between eleven and fourteen terms in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2.

Children beginning school in:

Term 1 will have 12 terms in Junior Primary

4 – Reception

4 – Year 1

4 – Year 2

Term 2 will have 11 terms in Junior Primary

3 – Reception

4 – Year 1

4 – Year 2

Term 3 will have 14 terms in Junior Primary

6 – Reception

4 – Year 1

4 – Year 2

Term 4 will have 13 terms in Junior Primary

5 – Reception

4 – Year 1

4 – Year 2

The above guidelines are set to address the best needs of students now and in their futures. In exceptional circumstances the school may identify students who require less time in Junior Primary. In such cases the class teacher will discuss this option with the Principal and the Parents.

The transition programme will involve a number of visits and will occur in the term before the child is to start school.

The staff at Gumeracha Primary School believes a smooth transition into the school environment provides children with a positive beginning to their schooling years. This experience allows:

- Students to become familiar with the school environment and classroom environment and resources.
- Students to become familiar and comfortable with all staff within the school.
- Students to build positive relationships with other students at school.
- Students to interact and form positive attitudes towards their new learning environment.

Therefore we have established the following procedures to ensure students transition into our school is successful.

Prior to transition visits the Reception teacher will visit the pre-schools to meet with the children coming to Gumeracha Primary School. At that time the Reception teacher and the Pre-School Director will organise a meeting to discuss children's developmental levels.

The transition visits will occur over the last 3 weeks of each term. The day will vary from term to term, but the three visits will be on the same day.

- First visit – 8.45am – 11.00am (children bring their recess)
Parent Information Meeting – school tour, meet the Principal/Teacher.
Discuss class routines.
- Second visit – 8.45am – 1.30pm (children bring their recess and lunch)
- Third visit – 8.45am – 1.30pm (children bring their recess and lunch)

Individual transition programmes will be negotiated for students who have special needs to ensure individual needs are addressed.