

## The Transition Plan

### ***What is a transition plan?***

The transition plan is a plan outlining steps needed to ensure a child's transition into kindergarten is as smooth as possible.

### ***Does every child have a transition plan?***

Although a transition plan can be beneficial for every child, it is recommended for children who have additional needs, have received support in early childhood settings or have been involved with community service providers.

### ***Who develops the transition plan?***

The transition plan is developed by the child's parents, school board staff, representatives from the early childhood setting the child attends and community service providers working with the child.

### ***When is the transition plan created?***

The transition plan is typically initiated at the case conference. A number of items related to starting school are discussed at the case conference, which forms the basis for and leads to the creation of the transition plan.

### ***What kind of information would be included in my child's transition plan?***

A transition plan can be broken down into two parts:

- 1) What needs to be done by the school staff and professionals in order to welcome and support your child and;
- 2) Ways you can help your child get ready for school and become more familiar with the school prior to his or her first day.

Although transition plans typically follow a general outline, your child's transition plan will be based on his or her individual profile. You can expect to see the following type of information in your child's transition plan:

- Details and instructions about creating an *I'm Going to School* album (video/photos of the school, school yard and classroom, routines, safe bus practices, etc);
- Details about your child's transportation;
- Activities designed to get your child ready for school;
- Details about transferring or acquiring specialized equipment, as needed;
- Type of supports needed and the possible role of service providers during the transition.

The *Entry to School Planning Calendar* presents information about this important transition and can serve as a point of reference when developing your child's plan.

