

**Starting  
School  
2020**

**Transitions:  
Ideas for  
Early Years  
Settings**

**Due to the coronavirus pandemic it is likely that usual transition events and activities may not take place this year. To support children with their transition into school in September, Early Years settings could consider the following ideas:**

- Record a practitioner reading 'starting school' books to share on your setting website/ Facebook page/ online journals (Please check publishers copyright first).
- Gather a list of good 'starting school' books to share with parents.
- Contact parents to ask which school their child will attend.
- Encourage parents to look at their school's website for information.
- Consider if some school photo/information books previously put together are still up to date (e.g. photo of Reception teacher) could they be shared with parents by email or online journals?
- Look back at your own (or your children's) first day at school. Do you have any photos you could share of you in school uniform? What are your memories/ favourite bits? It's good for children to see people special to them have been through similar experiences. You could record this as a video clip. You could add it to their online journals if you use them.
- Although it may be a while since you last saw your key children you still know so much about them. What were their favourite things to do at your setting? Which stories did they enjoy? Consider using the CCC transition booklet on our website to share information with schools.
- Think about children who you feel may find the transition to school tricky. Consider contacting parents to offer advice - what worked when they started your setting?
- Encourage parents to continue to upload observations to online journals (if used) – you could add comments with ideas on how to extend their learning.
- Share the 'What can I do today?' activities on your setting Facebook pages to support parents with activities to try at home (these are sent out daily via the Cumbria Children and Families Information Service Facebook Page)
- Share the Cumbria County Council 'Help your child get ready for school' leaflet with your parents.