

Settling in Policy



Primary 1

I would like to welcome you and your child to St Mary's PS Killesher. As a whole school community we look forward to working in partnership with you to make you and your child's time with us a happy and successful one.

Educational Transition is defined as the process of change that children make from one place to another. Starting nursery or pre-school is often the first big transition in a child's life. The move into Primary 1 is the next transition.

Children settle into school life in lots of different ways. Some children will confidently move into the school, as soon as they come in. Other children may be nervous and anxious about leaving their parents. Most children will be somewhere in between.

Children will come with a diversity of individual experiences, attitudes, expectations and developmental differences that need to be acknowledged and considered to ensure each child becomes a fully valued member of their school community.

Please be reassured and try not to worry if your child experiences difficulties – it is part of a child's development to be anxious, nervous or angry about starting school. We also recognise that many parents will find this a difficult and sometimes upsetting process. We hope that we can use our experience to support you and your child in whatever ways suit you.

A positive parent/teacher partnership builds confidence in your child and results in the best outcome.

1. Getting Ready

- Prior to your child starting school we will gather information about your child from you and from other professionals i.e. Nursery Transition Report. If your child has a Special Need or Statement, we will ask for the most recent Individual Education Plan and or Statement of Educational Special Needs.

“Good liaison between pre-school and primary school is essential to help ensure continuity and progression in children’s learning experiences” (Curricular Guidance for Pre-School Education pg.17, 2007).

- Visit our school website with your child www.stmaryskillesher.com. Children are more likely to feel confident if they are familiar with the physical environment.
- Primary 1 Induction Morning– attend our induction morning. This will provide you and your child with an opportunity to meet the class teacher and classroom assistant.

It also provides you an opportunity to meet the school Principal and other parents whilst your child spends time in their new classroom.

2. Starting School

Our Primary 1 children spend a morning in school with their class buddies from P6. This allows their first day at school to be calm and gives them an opportunity, with their new teacher, to explore the school environment.

3. Communication

Your child's class teacher is available before school if you have a concern or something you need to have a quick chat about. Your child's class teacher is available in their classroom on the first Tuesday of each month after school. Please email to arrange an appointment.

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