

Sample - Preschool Fall Strategies

Pre School Teacher	Kindergarten Teacher	Principal	Transition Lead Staff
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Meet regularly with the transition team <input type="checkbox"/> Make contact with families, especially in the first 2 weeks <input type="checkbox"/> Encourage family participation <input type="checkbox"/> Home-learning activities <input type="checkbox"/> Offer newsletters or other resource materials <input type="checkbox"/> Establish peer connections at school <input type="checkbox"/> Help families gain access to community resources <input type="checkbox"/> Encourage parents to provide activities that allow their children to make a greater variety of friends than just those that are in their preschool classroom. These can be sports activities, musical and dance activities, taking their child to the library, going to the local parks, etc. <input type="checkbox"/> Turn the dramatic play area into a kindergarten classroom. If possible, borrow some materials from a local kindergarten to enhance the play experience. Post pictures of children getting on a bus, eating in the cafeteria, playing on the playground, visiting the school library, playing in the gym, in the art room or different areas of the school <input type="checkbox"/> Help children create "Time Capsules" of their preschool experiences. You can use a shoebox or other storage type box. Have the children decorate their boxes and have a label printed out that says "_____’s Preschool (or Head Start) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Meet regularly with the transition team <input type="checkbox"/> Make scrapbooks about your school or center and share them with other schools/centers <input type="checkbox"/> Ask kindergarten children to prepare a journal about what happens in their room and to share it with preschool classes that will be moving up in the fall <input type="checkbox"/> Develop photo albums of staff from each agency and provide copies to each other to help children and adults become familiar with faces they will be seeing <input type="checkbox"/> Have kindergarten children prepare a video about what it is like to be a kindergartner <input type="checkbox"/> If there are school or childcare newsletters sent out, send a copy to the other schools where you receive children from or send children to. This provides a constant update of activities and builds familiarity of each other’s programs <input type="checkbox"/> Plan for joint kindergarten registration days. These can be held at childcare centers, Head start centers, local family resource centers, etc. Preschool staff can assist the kindergarten staff with the registration process 	<p><u>School Connections</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Support collaboration between programs <input type="checkbox"/> Discuss expectations for transition with kindergarten and preschool teachers <p><u>Community Connections</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Help shape the transition goals and plans <input type="checkbox"/> Work with the school district to create transition-supportive policy <input type="checkbox"/> Think creatively about resource allocation to support teachers <input type="checkbox"/> Seek community agencies’ support of transition goals and activities <input type="checkbox"/> Participate in meetings about transition <input type="checkbox"/> Have one program (either preschool or elementary) host a “coffee and donuts” morning for program administrators in order to allow time for the programs to discuss ways of meeting the needs of diverse families. They can talk about the transition process and identify ways to improve it 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Make contact with families, especially during the first 2 weeks of school <input type="checkbox"/> Assess family needs and refer for services if necessary <input type="checkbox"/> Encourage family participation <input type="checkbox"/> Offer newsletters or other resource materials <input type="checkbox"/> Establish peer connections <input type="checkbox"/> Foster inter-school collaboration about programs and classroom practices <input type="checkbox"/> Identify and communicate community expectations regarding curriculum <input type="checkbox"/> Initiate regular meetings at the school with families once per month <input type="checkbox"/> Meet regularly with the transition team <input type="checkbox"/> Host an open house for staff from all child care centers, and kindergarten classrooms. Have presentations about what their programs are like. Allow them to get acquainted with one another and to share materials they will be using during the next school year <input type="checkbox"/> Conduct joint workshops and training throughout the year <input type="checkbox"/> Plan for joint kindergarten registration days. These can be held at childcare centers, Head Start centers, local family resource centers, etc. Preschool staff can assist the kindergarten staff with the registration process <input type="checkbox"/> Arrange for records to be shared between early childhood setting and the kindergarten setting. This should only be done with written permission from parents. Items to be shared can include developmental checklists, behavior checklists, portfolios of children’s’ work, etc.

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<p>Treasures”. Have the children select favorite things they would like to go into their boxes – videos, photos, favorite drawings, souvenirs, etc. Tell the children to take their boxes home and look back at them when they want to think about preschool</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> If there are school or childcare newsletters sent out, send a copy to the other schools where you receive children from or send children to. This provides a constant update of activities and builds familiarity of each other’s programs</p> <p>Conduct Parent Interview (provided Figure A12)</p>			<p><input type="checkbox"/> Host a joint program meeting between staff at the elementary school and staff at the local preschools. Play a game of “alphabet soup” where acronyms and terminology from different programs are matched.</p>
Complete Kindergarten Transition Menu Checklist (sample provided Figure 4.1, blank tool Figure A-11)			
Progress Made			
Next Steps			