



SALISBURY
STATE
SCHOOL

Nothing but the best

Prep Transition Program and Pre-Prep Program 'Little Salisbury Serpents'

Salisbury SS supports successful transitions from Early Childhood Centres to School by building trusting partnerships with families and Kindy's to ensure our programs meet the needs of all children as they enjoy a successful transition to school.

SALISBURY STATE SCHOOL

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WHAT IS A PREP TRANSITION PROGRAM?

At Salisbury State School, we have an extensive Prep Transition Program for all children commencing Primary School the following year. Helping to make the significant transition from a home, preschool or day care setting to Prep as smooth as possible for children and their families is of paramount importance to us.

Transition to school: The importance of transitions

The transition to school marks a time of great excitement, and sometimes stress, for children and their families. Participation in a transition program supports a positive start to school and also promotes children's mental health, wellbeing, social and academic success. Transition programs aim to minimise children's experience of adjustment difficulties and highlights the importance of working and building positive relationships between families and school.

Who can participate in the transition?

All children who are eligible to commence primary school next year are invited to participate in our Transition Program. We have built strong relationships with our community kindergartens and day care centres, who will be supporting the transition of your child to our Prep setting. Family day care providers are warmly invited to participate also. If your child does not attend kindergarten/preschool or day care, you are most welcome to participate.

When will the Transition Program Commence?

At Salisbury State School we value creating a positive start to school for all of our students and their families. In order to build the relationships that are crucial to a successful start to school and ensure children and their families feel a sense of belonging, we have organised the following events to occur:

- Visits by children between early childhood settings and our school
- Family information sessions
- Invitation to join our Under 8's event
- Visits by educators between early childhood settings and schools
- School student leaders visits to local early childhood settings
- Personal tours of our great school for prospective families
- Our new initiative commencing in Term 3, a **Pre- Prep Program** occurring one morning a week at our school, implemented by our Prep Teachers
More information below

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Our Transition Program begins early in Term 2 as the DP, HOC, Support Co-Ordinator and Prep Teachers visit Early Childhood Settings within our community. This a great opportunity to meet the students, families and answer any queries they may have regarding starting school in the following year.

Our Transition Program commences onsite in Term 2 with our first Prep Open Day on 27th of May 2022.

In Semester 2, Term 3 & 4, Salisbury SS will offer a further 3 sessions for pre-prep students to visit classrooms. (One in August, October and December)

These sessions are held within the current Prep classrooms and children are invited to participate in a variety of activities designed to help them feel comfortable in a classroom environment. A variety of oral language, literacy and numeracy activities along with fine and gross motor activities are implemented throughout these sessions.

Families will be invited to attend various information sessions while the children are experiencing a session of learning in Prep.

PRE-PREP-PROGRAM “Little Salisbury Serpents”

Our Pre-Prep Program, will commence in Term 3 on Wednesday 13th July 2022 from 9-11am. This is a new, exciting initiative offering children the opportunity to experience learning in our setting and feel a sense of belonging before they start school. Our “Little Salisbury Serpents” will have their own Pre-Prep classroom and access to the Junior Playground to experience life at school each week. With families close by, children can feel safe and supported as they begin to form relationships with teachers, other children and become familiar with the school learning environment.

HOW WILL THE PRE-PREP-PROGRAM HELP MY CHILD?

This program aims to give pre-prep aged children a taste of school life and is conducted by our current Prep teachers. We believe it will:

- Assist children in making a successful adjustment to the school and classroom environments
- Offer an opportunity to participate in classroom activities
- Create familiarity with teachers and school routines
- Allow children to practise skills necessary for school
- Encourage new friendships and develop a support system
- Provide information and support for parents

***If you are interested in the Pre-Prep Program, simply contact our administration to register your child.
Contact details are below.***

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Tips to support your child's transition to Prep

Literacy

When children are about to begin school, it gives them a good start if they are able to:

- Recognise and write some letters of their own name.
- Notice signs, symbols, letters and words that they see in the environment.
- Pay attention to repeated sounds in rhyme, jingles, ads and stories.
- Tell stories about events in their lives in sequence.
- Listen with interest and courtesy when other people speak.
- Talk about favourite stories and describe some of the characters or things that happen.
- Hold a book the right way up and trace their finger from top left to bottom right as they pretend to read.
- Have experience with drawing, scribbling and making marks on paper

Numeracy

When children are about to begin school, it gives them a good start if they are able to:

- Talk about their age and recognise some numbers.
- Count a group of objects up to 10.
- Recognise dots on a dice.
- Sort things that are 'similar' and 'different' and talk about why.
- Name common shapes and colours.
- Use words to compare items e.g. 'This is the biggest' and 'This one is short'.
- Use words to describe the position of objects e.g. 'It's under the chair, beside the doll, next to the table ...'
- Help adults with everyday maths experiences such as cooking and shopping.
- Describe the weather.

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Helping children get 'ready for school' at home or kindergarten:

- Support them to develop self-help and self-care skills (independent toileting, dressing, eating, cleaning up after themselves).
- Follow a routine together (eating and opening wrappers for lunch at a set time, read a story before playing etc).
- Help children learn to recognise and write their name.
- Provide many opportunities for them to develop their fine motor skills (such as play dough, Lego, threading beads, cutting paper, undoing buttons and zips, drawing with different tools and finger plays and rhymes).
- Slowly introduce them to more structured activities.
- Practise sitting and focusing on small and whole class group activities for extended period of time.
- Learn to wait their turn to speak by saying 'excuse me' or putting up their hand.
- Support them to handle their emotions by reminding them to 'use their words' to resolve conflicts.
- Practise taking turns and asking to join in game.
- Visit local schools to become comfortable in the environment.
- Practise playing 'school' and dress up in a school uniform.
- Read picture books about starting school and talk about how the characters feel.

We look forward to welcoming all our new Prep students and their families to our school. If you require any further information regarding our Transition Program or our Pre-Prep Program please contact our administration.

Kind regards

Serena Ohnsorge
Prep/ Pre-Prep Teacher

Melinda Hammermeister
Prep Teacher

Sally Martin
Student Support Coordinator

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