Pre-school to school Transition

ATTENDANCE
A child who is at least 6 years old but not yet 17 years is of compulsory school age (as of the 01/01/03), irrespective of distance from the school, and is required to be enrolled at a registered government or non-government and must attend school on every day instruction is provided at the school for the child, unless the Minister has granted an exemption from school attendance.

Once enrolled, children under six years of age and not under compulsion are required to attend school for the entire day school is open for instruction.

ADMISSION POLICY
Children are admitted at the start of the term following their 5th birthday. These children will spend all of their first year in Reception (as per DECS “Early Years of School” policy). Children commencing school at age 5 will be required at school for 4 out of 5 days for a negotiable period of 6 weeks. Transition work will be carried out by the J.P. teacher. Children enrolling in Term 4 will generally spend 5 Terms in Reception. Those enrolling in Term 3, will generally spend 6 terms in Reception. Negotiation between parents, school personnel and where applicable the DECS Guidance Officer will occur for students with high intellectual potential or other special learning needs.

Requests for children to commence school prior to their 5th birthdays will be only addressed using the following process:
- Initial discussion with parents and school personnel
- School personnel will notify the child’s Pre-school of the request, and ask that the child be monitored over a negotiated period of time.
- At a collaborative meeting between the family and staff from both the pre-school and school a final decision which best caters for the holistic developmental needs and learning of the child will be made.
- Negotiation between parents, school personnel and where applicable the DECS Guidance Officer will occur for students with high intellectual potential or other special learning needs.

TRANSITION PROCESS
To ensure Reception students at Blyth Primary School have a safe and happy start to their schooling a process similar to the one outlined below will be negotiated with the pre-school centre and families.

In the term prior to their enrolment, two informal and three formal transition visits will occur.
- Week 5- Blyth Primary School Junior Primary teacher will visit the pre-school and familiarize themselves with the setting and introduce themselves to the relevant student/s.
- Week 6- the student/s will visit the Blyth Primary School accompanied by a Pre-school teacher.
- Week 7- the student/s will join their intended class from after lunch until dismissal at 3.30pm.
- Week 8- the student/s will join their intended class from 9.00am until lunch commences at 12.30pm. This includes a recess playtime experience.
- Week 9- the student/s will join their intended class from 9.00am until dismissal at 3.30pm. Student/s will therefore experience both recess and lunch breaks.
- Parent meetings with the teacher and/or principal can be arranged at any stage upon request.
- School tours can be arranged by contacting the school on PH: 88 445 195