KINDER-PREP

RATIONALE:
The transition from kindergarten to school or home to school should be smooth and happy for children, parents and teachers.

PURPOSE:
For transition from kindergarten/home to school to be smooth and happy for children, parents and teachers.

BROAD GUIDELINES:
• To be enrolled, children must be five before April 30th on the year that they are to begin school. Proof of age, i.e. birth certificate and immunisation certificate must be provided.
• Kindergarten experience is worthwhile and hence every attempt must be made to encourage all parents of prospective new entrants to send their children to kindergarten for the year prior to entry to school.
• In term three and four, children who are enrolled to begin school in the next calendar year will be invited to school on several occasions with kindergarten teacher and/or parents. This will help with familiarisation of school.
• There will only be one intake of preps per year. All prep children will start during the first full week of the school year.

IMPLEMENTATION:
• Enrolments for the following year should commence in Term 2. Advertisements for enrolment time will be placed in the school bulletin, local papers, local businesses, Information Centre, all feeder kindergartens.
• Parents may complete the enrolment card at the main office providing proof of age and immunisation form.
• The Early Years Co-ordinator will visit the three main kindergartens (i.e. Welwyn, Westerngate and Deer Park) to seek information of children and issue invitations to visit Deer Park North.
• The Early Years Coordinator will address parent's group at kindergartens where required.
• The children of each kindergarten who are enrolled at this school, will visit the school, on several pre-arranged dates. At the visit the Assistant Principal and Early
Years Coordinator will welcome the children and arrange (a) visits to junior classes, and (b) a separate lesson for visiting children. The parents of these children will be welcomed by the principal, given a guided tour of the school then afternoon tea and question time. All Junior school teachers will be invited.

- Several other visits will be arranged where new entrants will work in the classroom:
  - a) with their parent
  - b) with their teachers (and if possible their class)
- The Early Years Co-ordinator to observe children enrolled at Kindergarten.
- During the transition program kindergarten children will be observed in order to facilitate early assessment and intervention where necessary.
- Information booklets for all will be prepared. These will be distributed and explained at a Prep Information Evening in mid Term 4. Invitations will be issued to every child who is enrolled. School times, starting day and general organisation will be explained at this at this meeting.
- Alternate dismissal times of new entrants children maybe negotiated with parents if the need arises.
- Local kindergarten teachers will be invited to the school during February. They will visit classrooms and meet with the Junior school teachers to discuss any concerns.
- Parents of new enrolments will be surveyed at the end of Term 1.

EVALUATION
- Observation only. The organisation of the first month at school will show whether the time spent on transition has been worthwhile.
- Parent Survey

YEAR 6 – YEAR 7

PURPOSE:
- To assist parents and children in Team 6 in making well informed decisions concerning their secondary education.
- To attempt to prepare children academically, socially and emotionally for a smooth transition into post-primary education.

BROAD GUIDELINES:
- Network post-primary schools hold afternoon and evening information sessions for parents and children in Team 6.
- Parents are responsible for arranging the attendance at the above meetings and will be notified by DPNPS prior to the date.
- The concept of the neighbourhood school will be encouraged.
IMPLEMENTATION:

- “Application for enrolment” for post-primary school forms will be distributed as stipulated by the Region.
- Information sessions for parents and children will be held by post-primary schools prior to their closing date for application.
- Student information will be transferred to relevant schools.
- Notification confirming students’ placement will be in Term 4. School representative will arrange meeting dates/times with all network post-primary schools for distribution of show bags, personal profiles and assistance with year 7 groupings in December.
- Arranging visits between post-primary/primary teachers to give first hand experiences about differences in each setting.
- Reporting-style interviews between Year 6 and Year 7 teachers to be arranged by coordinator/team leader.

This policy was last ratified by School Council in…