1. The aims of our Transition Program were to-

a) establish and maintain positive relationships and mutually respectful communication between families, children, pre-school educators and primary schools

b) encourage the input of educators, parents, schools and children in the Transition process.

c) identify children as capable learners with rich prior learning rather than being "ready to learn"

d) provide a transition process that is flexible and responsive to the differing needs of children, families, and schools

e) provide a comprehensive, innovative transition program that includes ongoing evaluation and reflects a continuing learning approach

2 Outline of professional learning experiences to assist in developing and improving Transition

Feb- Visit by TPL team to Norlane West PS
Observation of Developmental Play Program

April 22- Visit to school by local kindergarten teachers
Review of procedures and rationale of the current Transition process

May 4- Grampians Regional Workshop
Transition –A Positive Start to School

May 26- Visit to “Ariston” in Geelong
The Best Start project

September 2- Visit to local kindergarten
Prep team and kinder teachers –shared understandings

September 9-Meeting with kindergarten teachers
Positive Start to School –DEECD workshop
3- What have we done-The process

Background reading and research

Surveyed stakeholders

Shared information with staff and other professionals- visits between kindergartens/daycare and school

Developed resources as part of a Transition Kit that will be useful for teachers and parents and therefore assist in a smoother transition for our Preps.

Reflected on the process continually

Introduced ancillary staff into the process at a much earlier time (Speech therapists observed kinder children during initial visits to school)

Created an organizational timeline

**Useful Websites for Transition**

*Information on the new Transition sharing tool to be used in schools from 2010*

*Royal Children’s Hospital Centre for Community Child Health-
Presentations by early childhood facilitators, based on world wide best practice, including the Linking Schools and Early Years Project*

[www.mcri.edu.au](http://www.mcri.edu.au)
*Murdoch Children’s Research Institute*
*Early childhood development-information and research studies*

*Literacy program for young children*

*Queensland Studies Authority*
*Information on Early Childhood programs and developments in education*

*Look for- Children’s Early Learning and Education Strategy Group*

[www.ecrp.uiuc.edu.au](http://www.ecrp.uiuc.edu.au)
*Early Childhood Research and Practice*
*Starting School:Effective Transitions-Dockett and Perry*

*School readiness and transition*