



Transition to our school

Transitioning to school

We recommend families wishing to transition their child to school to join the Little Rockets Programme. This consists of 9am - 10:30 am sessions on a set morning that suits you. This option is open to children who are 4 years old approximately 4-6 weeks before their fifth birthday. Parents are encouraged to attend to support their child while they learn about school and help build relationships with the child's new teacher and peers.

Structure of Little Rockets

Transitioning children are immersed in our usual classroom routines, these include placing their bag on their named hook and their snack box in their named cubby, joining our group time for roll call, our Peace Song and feeding the class fish named 'Strawberry'.

A lot of fun learning experiences will be available for your child to have a go at alongside their peers with your support.

Information for parents

Before students start at Big Rock Primary, parents are encouraged to come and talk with the New Entrant Teacher, about any questions that they might have. Upon starting Little Rockets the class teacher will call you to discuss our New Entrant Class routines like break times, library/library bus etc... and if you have any further questions, you are welcome to approach the class teacher or the school office.

Finer details of transitions

Families are encouraged to bring their child to school for at least four transition visits in the morning starting at 9am and initially until 10:30am and then progressing until 12:15pm. This will allow for your child to be a part of our programme in which they will experience mat time, phonics, shared writing and independent writing, printing and also will include an eating and play time in our playground. Parents are encouraged to stay on site during this time. *There are options to plan a longer transition period if it is necessary to allow for a smoother transition.*

Student packs

Transitioning children will receive a pack containing fine motor skill, numeracy, alphabet activities along with a Casey the Caterpillar letter formation guide. This is with a view to create a shared common knowledge between parents, students and the teacher and as an indicator to the parent of the initial skills which will be focused on when starting at school.

Communication with home

Each week there is a school newsletter which can be received via email if requested or if required a hardcopy which will go home with the oldest sibling. There is also a School Stream app which can be downloaded and a Facebook page. Parents can contact the teacher via phone and email as well as before and after school. Throughout the term there are assemblies which families are encouraged to attend along with other community events.

Seamless transitions

To help make the transition between preschool and school as seamless as possible, there are regular interactions between Little Rock and Big Rock. The teachers meet and plan joint learning experiences throughout the school year.

2 Bath Street, Brighton

Phone: 03 4811781

Email: office@bigrock.school.nz