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| **Topic: Supporting transitions to preschool** | | | |
| Both *Aistear* and *Síolta* highlight the importance of supportive and positive transitions in early childhood. A transition is the process of moving from one situation to another and taking time to adjust. Major transitions often represent significant milestones in a child’s life and signify change for children and their families. The move from home to the first out-of-home setting is a very big milestone for children.  This short CPD session will help you to consider your practice in supporting transitions into your setting. | | | |
| ***Key connections***   * *Aistear’s* theme of [Well-being](https://www.aistearsiolta.ie/en/curriculum-foundations/aistear-and-siolta-documents/well-being.pdf) * *Síolta’s* Standard of [Transitions](https://www.aistearsiolta.ie/en/curriculum-foundations/aistear-and-siolta-documents/13-transitions.pdf) | | **A transition is the process of moving from one situation to another and taking time to adjust** | |
|  | | | Checkmark |
| Document | Supporting Transitions is one of the pillars of the *Aistear Síolta* Practice Guide. [This document](https://www.aistearsiolta.ie/en/transitions/overview/supporting-transitions.pdf) gives an overview of supporting and managing transitions that are supportive and consistent for children and their families. | |  |
| Eye | Major transitions often represent significant milestones in a child’s life and signify change for children and their families. The move from preschool to school is a very big milestone for children. In this [three-minute video](https://www.aistearsiolta.ie/en/transitions/examples-and-ideas-for-practice/supporting-smooth-transitions-through-consistent-and-stable-relationships-a-parents-perspective.html), we hear from one parent on her experience of transitioning her child into preschool and some of the processes that supported this transition. | |  |
| Eye | Children learn and develop through loving and nurturing relationships with adults and other children, and the quality of these relationships impacts on their learning and development. [This parent](https://www.aistearsiolta.ie/en/transitions/examples-and-ideas-for-practice/supporting-smooth-transitions-through-consistent-and-stable-relationships-a-parents-perspective.html) goes on to explain how consistent and stable relationships helped in the transition process for her and her child. | |  |
| Eye | Now you will hear from [an early years educator](https://www.aistearsiolta.ie/en/transitions/examples-and-ideas-for-practice/supporting-transitions-into-preschool-an-educators-perspective-3-6-years-.html) on how her service shares key information with parents to help to ensure continuity of care, routine and learning and development. | |  |
| Document | The role of the Key Person is important is planning for and supporting these transitions. [Learn more about this role here.](https://www.aistearsiolta.ie/en/transitions/resources-for-sharing/using-a-key-person-approach.pdf) | |  |
| **Pencil outline** | [Element 1 of the Transitions Self Evaluation Tool](https://www.aistearsiolta.ie/en/transitions/self-evaluation-tools-/self-evaluation-tool-transitions.pdf) may help you to reflect on your current practice in supporting transitions to preschool | |  |

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|  | **My key reflections having viewed/read the above materials**  **Prompts for Reflection**: What is working well for you in this area? What are the challenges you have experienced in this area? What will you do differently in the future? |
| Key |  |
|  | **An action I can take . . .**  **Prompts for Reflection**: Outline the changes you plan to make to your practice. How will these changes impact positively on children’s learning and development? Think about the resources and supports you will need. What aspects of this work would you like to prioritise and focus on in the coming weeks? |
| Lightbulb and pencil | Link to the Practice Guide’s [Aistear Síolta Action Planning Template](http://aistearsiolta.ie/en/Introduction/Action-planning-tool-for-Siolta-and-Aistear/Action-planning-tool-for-Siolta-and-Aistear.pdf) |
| All of the above resources and many more are available on the *Aistear Síolta Practice Guide* website at [www.aistearsiolta.ie](http://www.aistearsiolta.ie)  Thank you for visiting and using the Practice Guide. | |
| Additional Support Materials | |
| Cycle with people with solid fill | You might be interested in these additional support materials from National *Síolta* *Aistear* Initiative Partners.  [*Mo*Scéal Reporting Templates](https://ncca.ie/en/early-childhood/mo-sc%C3%A9al/mo-sc%C3%A9al-reporting-templates/)  Insights – Transitions (www.gov.ie)  [Barnardos. (2012). What’s New? Supporting Children through Transitions in their Early Years.](https://knowledge.barnardos.ie/handle/20.500.13085/784) |