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**Transition And Inclusion –
Transition to School, how to
Communicate with school teachers**

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What is transition to school?

- Starting school is an important milestone in any child and family's life.
- When a child has a developmental delay or disability, transition to school 'requires additional thought, time, planning and support to make the process as smooth and as positive as possible'

(<https://www.ecia.org.au/Transition-to-School>)



- Successful inclusion in early childhood provides the best foundation for a positive transition to school



THE SCHOOL READINESS EQUATION

<https://www.ecia.org.au/Transition-to-School>



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Reintroducing D.
He is seven and is
in year one at his
local public school.



9 weeks early - 17 weeks in 3 hospitals

1 month - moderate bilateral posterior periventricular leukomalacia

10 months - cortical vision impairment

12 months - cerebral palsy

13 months – hepatoblastoma

6 years - epilepsy

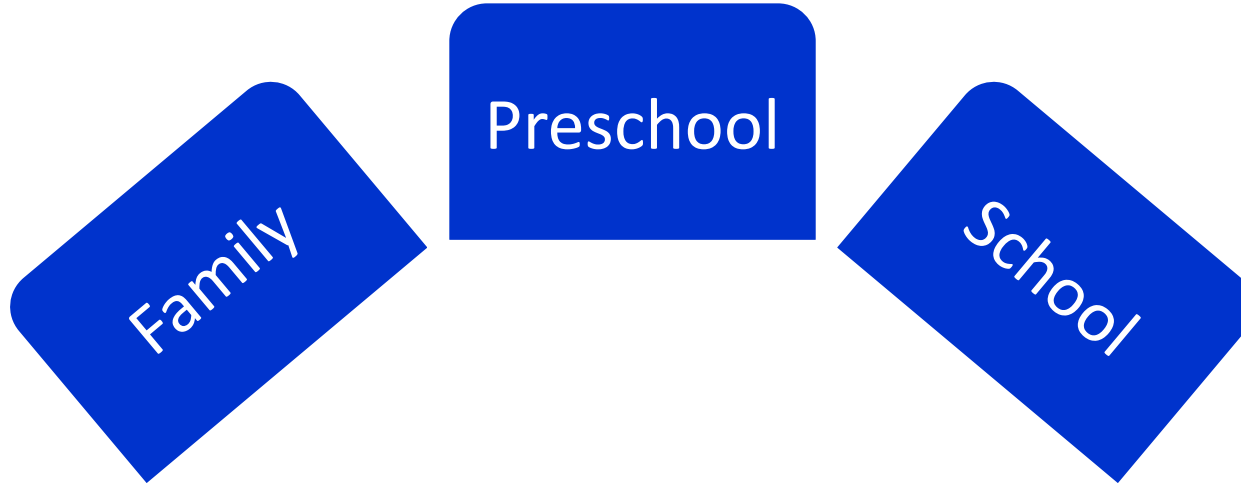
Level 5 Spastic Dystonic Quadriplegic Cerebral Palsy with Coreo Athetosis



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Where to start?

- Key stakeholders



Building open communication is vital



Family perspective

- Speak to preschool teachers
- Know your rights
- Review your options
- Be sure in what you want
- Have as much information as you can to support you
- Meet with the school and the principal



Preschool

- Support the family to approach the school
- Provide any required documentation
- Be willing to have the school visit you
- Visit the school
- Speak with teachers (prior to, and during the transition)
- Create social stories (particularly useful for children on the autism spectrum)



School

- Think about rights of the child and family
- Don't be afraid to ask question
- Be open to parents
- Be aware of family's rights
- Visit preschool
- Find out about therapy involvement
- Have discussions as a staff team
- Include the SLSO (School Learning Support Officer)
- Decide who will be child's teacher



How could you introduce a child to school?

- Think about children creating with ‘This is me’ books
- Create your own story or video to introduce the child
- Help other people understand the importance of inclusion – this should not just be up to the parents to be the advocates.



Introducing D to his classmates and the school

A video was made to introduce Dexter to his
school

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hh0SDj3fics>



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Medical issues

- Be sure there is a medical plan to address what must happen in the event of any emergency.



Success!

- Contact principal ASAP
- Be open and honest when filling out paperwork (the more severe, the more likely funding will be approved)
- Be prepared to cry (happy and sad) and often
- Get therapists involved
- Communication book
- Open communication with the staff
- Get doctors on board

If you want to follow D, you can look up [lovedexter](#)



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