



MEDIA RELEASE

NEW PROJECT TO IMPROVE TRANSITIONS FROM KINDER TO SCHOOL

Children in Southern Grampians, Corangamite and Moyne will get a kick-start to their education with a new project to ease their transition from kindergarten to school.

Beyond the Bell has received \$450,000 over three years from The Ian Potter Foundation to roll out the Positive Transitions to School project across the three regions.

Positive Transitions to School is an extension of Stepping Stones to School which was established in Glenelg in 2015. The collaborative project aims to enhance relationships and connections between families and providers.

Beyond the Bell executive officer Kate Roache said the project would improve outcomes for children their families, early year providers, schools and support providers.

“It provides wrap-around support for children and their families to set them up for success in making the move from kindergarten to primary school,” she said.

The project is being implemented by OzChild and directed by local steering committees involving early education providers, primary schools and local councils.

OzChild early years programs team leader Claire Gleeson said Positive Transitions to School is targeted at families whose children are at risk of not being ready to successfully transition to school.

The work aims to improve readiness by identifying and addressing any cognitive and developmental delays and where children may need to improve their social skills. Identifying these issues early may result in children more successfully transitioning to school.

“We work with the parents and children and liaise with agencies and allied health specialists such as occupational therapists and speech therapists, paediatricians and with the Department of Human Services,” Ms Gleeson said.

“We ensure the support is tailored to individual family’s needs and is available where needed so they are ready to make the transition.”

Ms Gleeson said the program had been a great success in Glenelg and made the start to school easier for many children.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Kate Roache eo@btb.org.au, Claire Gleeson 5559 1030
cgleeson@ozchild.org.au