

YOUR CHILD'S TRANSITION TO PRESCHOOL

Information for GISW Parents

We are excited to welcome your child to preschool during the coming academic year! Although it is a joyful time, it may also be difficult for your child to separate from familiar people and surroundings. It is normal for children to be a little upset, but our teachers have assisted many children and parents through this transition phase and are ready to provide the support necessary for a successful process.



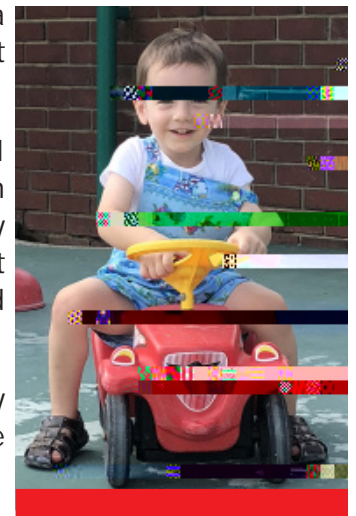
During the transition, your child will master the multi-hour separation from their closest caregivers and accept another daily routine. They will build trusting relationships with other adults. These relationships are the basis for exploring the world when the parents are not present. However, they do not replace the closest to the parents. Just as the teachers respect and support the relationships between the

During the integration process, the preschool teacher is guided, in part, by the individuality of the child: S/he respects the presence of the parents during this phase. S/he is sensitive, accepts the needs and interests of the child and guides the parents, helping them determine the right time to leave.

In order to make it easier for the child to enter the preschool routine, we have established a gentle integration procedure (based on the Berlin model). The parents play a very important role in this process.

The integration phase can last a couple of days to a few weeks, depending on the individual child. Some children adjust quickly to the new environment while others react with separation anxiety and uncertainty. If a child cannot calm down, one of the parents must be easily reachable either to calm down the child or take the child home. It is therefore very important to us that the adjustment begin with a parent or caregiver) and that it be for a limited period of time.

We ask parents or caregivers to remain available during the first week of school. In the daily discussion between the caregiver and the preschool teacher, the teacher will identify the timing for the parents to slowly withdraw and the best method for doing so.



Please come to preschool with your child the first day and be prepared to stay for a bit. You will become familiar with the preschool, and the preschool teacher will get to know both you and your child, including your child's habits and stage of development.

Generally, by the third day (and in coordination with the preschool teacher), separation can occur (if it has not already). Initially, the caregiver will leave the preschool for a short time -after saying goodbye -and will remain reachable by phone.

On the last day of the integration phase, the child will accept the preschool teacher as a caregiver and will be comforted by him/her.

Every child's adjustment period is distinct and must fit the needs of the child and the family.

The interests and the needs of the child are our .