

Stacey hopkins human development EAEE40031C

*A guidance handbook of transition during early years for
keyworkers.*

*A children develop to grow they go through many transitions throughout their life.
(Clarke, 2020)*



(Source: Hinton, 2018)

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Introduction

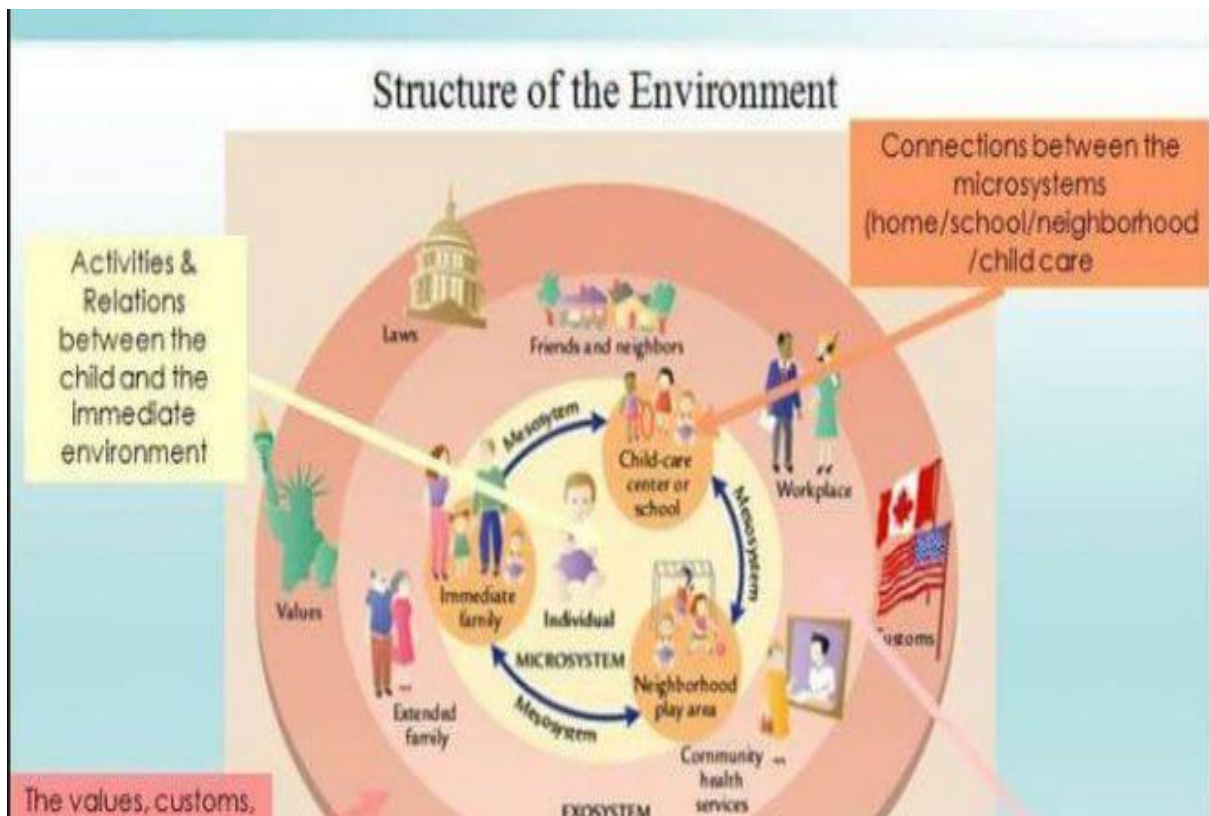
Transition- often referred to as change. A journey throughout a child's life that as they develop throughout life from a baby to going in to their first setting then on to starting a school or even a change from one class to another whilst at school. Transitions are all part of a growing and learning process which are a part of a child's milestone. (early years matters, 2020).

Throughout the course of life we experience many of transitions daily down to the very beginning of our life's. Transitioning into a school is said to be one of the biggest transitions a child goes through but the child will experience many of transitions before they reach their first setting. Transitions come in many of forms from a small transition to multiple transitions, also the readiness of a child or even the lack of transition in a child but transitions come as a challenge. (Dunlop 2018).

Each child is unique and should be accessed as a individual like those of special educational needs or even a child that is coming to a setting from care as these children will need additional support throughout there transition. For a child to adjust and settle into their new setting environment then a child will need to be prepared for change which is extremely important for a positive transition. Positive relationships between a child's carer/guardian and other professional's such as listening to one another and working together throughout a child's transition can ease transitioning from one setting to another, even the sharing of information between professional's and the child's carer/guardian involved can make the process easier. The child can also benefit during transition if opportunities could be provided for the people involved in the child's life such as a open day or even a newsletter. (Oxfordshire county council 2017)

As Brooker states professional's in the child care industry whiteness overwhelmingly transitions with children that learn in the modern society. (p1). Transitions are a big change in a child's life and he or she will experience many of different transitions from birth whether it's a pleasure or even a painful transition each individual will go through many of changes with different experiences as a individual. Transitions can also be a child having a younger sibling arriving to the world or even a death of someone close to them are a huge part of a life changing time for both a child and a adult. (p3). Transitions can knock ones self-confidence or even ones self-esteem by memories they encounter as a individual throughout life. Transitions also can make a individual feel quite insecure which could happen at any age throughout life as they have a long lasting effect. So really you can understand the vulnerability of a child in the world experiencing transitions. (Brooker 2008).

As each child grows and develops than the experiences they occur as small young children have a big impact on the rest of their life's. Frobel believes in the importance of play weather it is a practical hands on approach in to learning or even learning through nature gives a big impact throughout a child's development.



(source: Bronfenbrenner no date)

How to use this handbook.

This handbook is specifically designed for keyworkers involved as a guide to improve their understanding of the importance of communication while working alongside a child at a pre school setting as the child transitions. This handbook is to provide a guide of how to help a child encounter a smooth transition from home to their first setting also to help ease their transition from pre school to primary school. (flying start 2017).

Good relationships between the practitioner and parents make the transition of going to setting positive for a child's transition. (Patel no date).

The role of the adult.

As a child transitions from their home in to a setting you will need to provide them with reassurance for them to feel safe and you will also need to provide each individual child with familiar resources and experience's to enable a smooth transitioning for them to each have a sense of belonging whilst at a setting. Providing each child with a bond between them and their key worker is extremely important for the child to adapt into their new setting. (Patel No page).

Keyworkers will need to recognise the individuality of each individual child in their care and give them the individual care they need. This will need careful planning from the keyworker. (Brooker p55). As practitioners you will need to understand the different backgrounds and cultures of each child to help each child transition from home in to a school setting. (Brooker p56).

The key person involved with the child will need a plan put in place for a child that is coming in to a new setting. The plan will need a good procedure for each child's individual needs.

The key person's role includes:

- *Taylor each child's individual needs*
- *Familiarise each child with his/her new setting*
- *Build a strong bond between yourself and the child*
- *Build a relationship between yourself and the child's parent/career*
- *Plan learning activities for each individual child and observe them in setting to see if they are making progress whilst they transition*
- *Extremely important that you as a key worker are organised with notes of each child's development, progress, accidents, daily activities and if a child is on medication then it is strongly advised to also keep record of this*
- *Always have another member of staff at setting known to the child/children in your care as a backup plan*
- *Reports of the child's progress helps the child's guardian get a clear understanding of the progress taking place*

(Croner-I 2017)

As a keyworker building a learning relationship with a child Carlina rinalai explains that listening to a child is the main factor of what a child needs to develop. Mainly parents are often better at this than a keyworker or teacher in a placement or school setting as the parent would have built a strong relationship with the child over the

years and they tend to have a clear interest of what the child is saying/doing. (Smidt 2nd edn).

The needs of the child.

Play for children is the most important resource to help them grow, learn and connect with the people and surroundings around of them. Children should not be pushed in to learning but should be left to adapt to do things at their own individual pace and be free to practise new skills. It will all help towards a child's growth and learning abilities, this will need to be recognised as things a child can do instead of picking up on only what a child can not do. Childhood should be enjoyable and a child should be left to have a childhood. As Froebel states play is the main part of human development in childhood for every child to express themselves as a individual. Also a child that is free to have hands on experience can learn surficial better. (Louis and Powell 2020).

As Froebel states children thrive over security and close relationships between family members and others in the wider community. Froebel saw children as extremely creative thinkers with play and self-reflection as the best way for each child to learn. Froebel believes that in order for a child to make good choices and think for themselves than they will need to be given the freedom to do so. Children need to be free to explore, move and participate at their own individual pace with the guidance from an adult.

- *Play helps children reflect on understanding of the big world around them as well as the people in their life and most importantly themselves*
- *Play develops awareness of objects and people around them and also symbolic thought*
- *It is extremely important that allowing a child to choose their own play activities as this helps develop determination*
- *Play is amazing for a child's development towards his/hers social skills and building strong friendship's also it helps them with the understanding and care for others*

(Tovey. No date).



(Bing search. No date)

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