

Best Start transition to school

A positive start for all children



Best Start

Parents and prior to school service providers lay the foundation for learning that school education will build upon in a more formal setting.

Best Start assists children to move smoothly from informal to formal learning.

It is a time when teachers develop a relationship with each individual student in the classroom.



Best Start

Is it a test?

No

Best Start is **not** a test. It is the classroom teacher working with each child on literacy and numeracy tasks to gain a starting point for planning effective teaching and learning activities. The children **do not** pass or fail. There **is no** preparation required.

What is Best Start?

Best Start is one component of a NSW Government initiative to increase literacy and numeracy learning support in the early years of schooling.

Best start:

- teachers gather and analyse information as evidence about what children know, can do and understand in Literacy and Numeracy.
- provides important information that supports teachers in meeting children's individual learning needs
- provides families with feedback on what their child can do and how they can best support their child's learning
- assists teachers to monitor children's learning. This is ongoing through out the child's schooling years.



When and where is Best Start administered?

Best Start begins with the teacher interviewing each child at the beginning of the Kindergarten year.

The interview takes place in a supportive environment within the school. Children complete most tasks individually with the teacher.

Classroom teachers observe and record the child's responses.



How is Best Start administered?

Teachers ask a series of questions to gather information about children's early literacy and numeracy knowledge.

Teachers record directly into the Best Start software their observations and the child's responses.



Best Start Appointments 2021

Best Start will be administered at the beginning of the school year prior to your child starting school.

Best Start dates for 2021 are *Friday 29th January,*

Monday 1st February, Tuesday 2nd February

Parents will be emailed a code to make a booking for your child to attend their Best Start Interview. This will be emailed to you on **Tuesday 1st December.** The cut off for making these bookings is **Tuesday 15th December.**

Student Interviews take approximately 40 minutes.



More Best Start information for parents
has been emailed to you in separate
files.

We look forward to Kindergarten 2021!

