



Outside School Hours Care and Transition Statements

Successful transitions rely on children, families and early childhood professionals developing positive, supportive relationships. Children's learning and development is advanced when they feel that the new environment is a place where people care about them and where they can succeed.

Victorian Early Years Learning and Development Framework (2011, p.34)

Over the next few months services will be working with children and families to plan and implement transition to school processes. Transitioning to outside school hours care (OSHC) is a very significant part of many children's lives and sometimes gets overlooked in the planning process. Sharing Transition Learning and Development Statement's with OSHC services will not only help the service connect with and plan for each child, it is a useful way to encourage families to take a holistic approach to supporting their child through the excitement and challenge of this life phase.

The Transition Learning and Development Statement (the Statement) is part of the Victorian Government's Transition: a positive start to school initiative. It is completed by the child's family and early childhood educators and provided to both the family and the child's school and OSHC service. It contains information that teachers and educators in the child's new setting can use to help them connect with and plan for each child. Unfortunately sometimes OSHC services never get to read this useful document.

Key things educators in early childhood settings like kindergarten and long day care centres can do to encourage the sharing of the Statement with OSHC

- Include OSHC in your discussions with families about which school their child will be attending next year
- Network with your local OSHC services
- Consider inviting an OSHC Coordinator along to a family information evening to talk about the importance of transition processes for OSHC and what they can expect in this setting
- Talk to families about the value of sharing the Statement with their child's OSHC service
- Where a family knows which OSHC service their child will be attending, send a copy of the Statement directly to the service. As with sending the Statement to schools, this can only be done with the family's consent.

Key things educators in OSHC can do to encourage the sharing of the Statement with OSHC

- Talk now to the school about how the OSHC service can be included in the school's orientation plans and activities. Explore opportunities for you to promote the value of OSHC receiving the Statement e.g. in newsletters, at parent information nights, in school enrolment packs
- Become familiar with the Statement and the sort of information it can provide. Discuss ideas with the staff team about how to maximise their value and how they can be used to inform programs and help settle new children into the service
- Network with local kindergartens and long day care centres – let them know how valuable the Statement can be in supporting children to settle into OSHC
- Discuss a process for the school to share copies of Statements that it receives from families
- Consider including a permission line to access transition statements from the school on the OSHC enrolment form
- Discuss with the school the possibility of including a permission line on their enrolment form, for the school to share information, including the Statement with the OSHC service
- Ask families to give you a copy of the Statement as part of the enrolment process.

Leanne Giardina, Executive Director of Community Child Care, recently participated in the Department of Education & Training (formerly DEECD) current consultation about transition to schools. She used this opportunity to highlight the key role that OSHC plays for children and families as they settle into school and the value of sharing Statements with OSHC.



More information about the Consultation on the Transition:
A positive start to school initiative can be found at
www.victransition.com

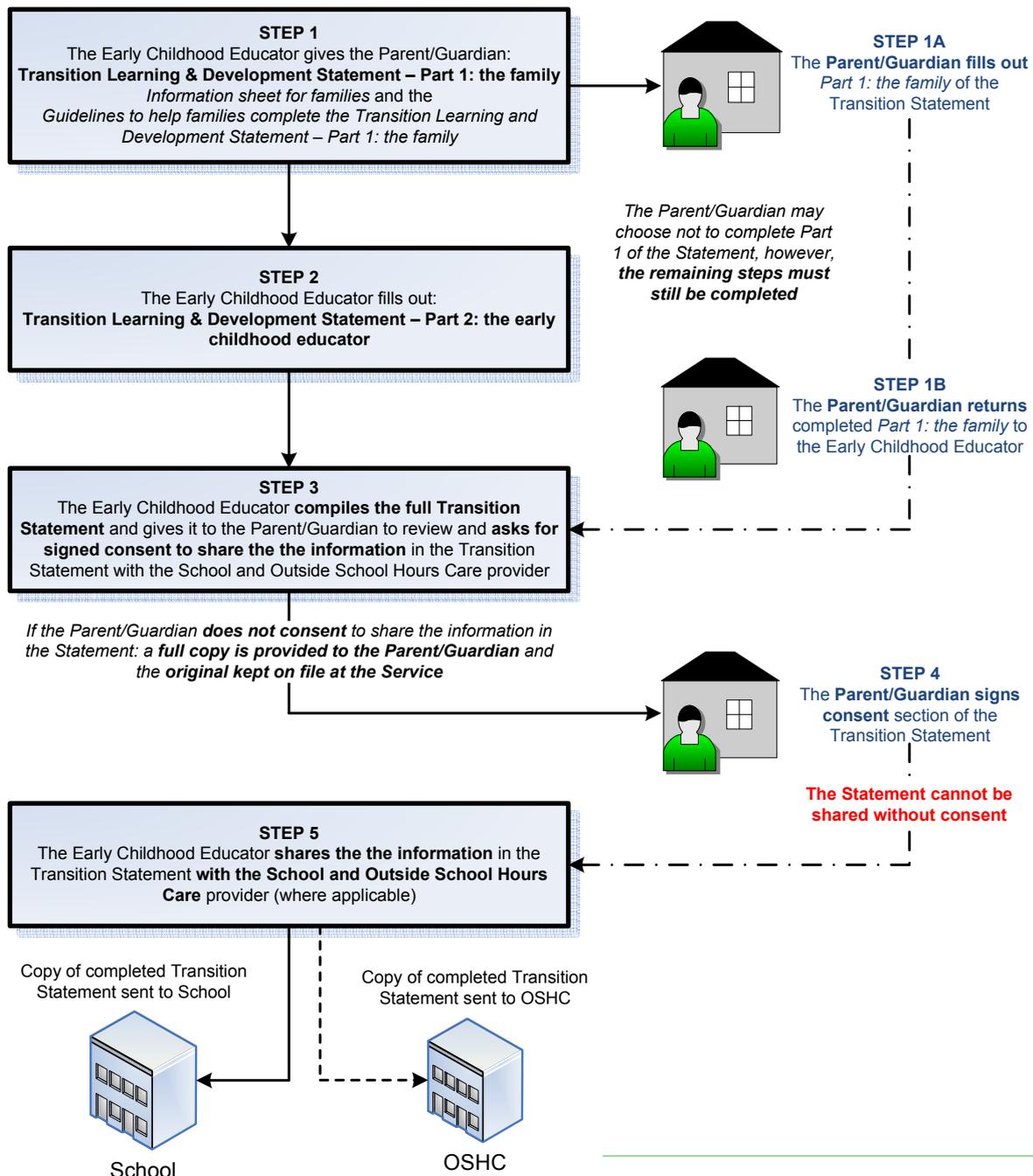
Copies of the Transition Learning and Development Statement template and other support materials can be found at

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/childhood/professionals/profdev/pages/transitions.aspx>

www.education.vic.gov.au > Early Childhood > For Professionals > Early Childhood Learning > Transition to School ◀

Transition: A Positive Start to School

Steps to completing the Transition Learning and Development Statement



<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/Documents/childhood/professionals/learning/steptransstat.pdf>