

# Transition Story of Implementation – Four Dwellings Primary Academy

## 1 Context

Four Dwellings Academy is a primary school in the Lift Schools MAT.

## 2 Identified Priority

- Support a smooth start into Reception for all children
- Ensure families felt informed, welcomed and supported
- Make the transition process work well for both nursery children and new families

## 4 Impact

- Children settled well into Reception and felt familiar with staff, routines, and classrooms
- Confidence was high for children moving from the school nursery
- Parents felt welcomed, reassured, and confident in the transition process
- Staff reported most children settled quickly, including those with additional needs
- Practical skill gaps (e.g. lunchtime independence) were identified early and addressed

## 3 Actions Taken

### Preparing Families

- Gathered parent/child views through questionnaires, observation, and staff reflection
- Shared clear welcome packs outlining routines and expectations

### Building Relationships

- Held summer information sessions to meet the Reception team and ask questions
- Settling-in visits and a welcome picnic to explore the classroom and environment

### Targeted Support

- Provided one-to-one meetings with the class teacher
- EYFS lead & SENCo worked with nurseries and childminders to share key information
- Visited in their current settings and planned personalised support where needed

### Reviewing Practice

- Staff training used to reflect on what worked well and identify improvements

## 5 Reflections & Next Steps

- Continue “school ready” sessions for parents focusing on independence and communication
- Strengthen engagement with families who attend less frequently
- Improve transition processes for children who start school mid-year
- Maintain clear systems for new starters, including: A dedicated new-starter information page; Settling-in checklists; Baseline assessments and a menu of support activities.