

# Presentation of the tool Moving on to school



#### The Intentions

For the young child and his family, the transition to school is the giant step to cross between two worlds, the one of Early Childhood (EC) and the one of the school environments. For this first step to be taken in security and confidence, the Moving on to school approach seeks to promote continuity between the child's experience in EC and his entry into school.

The tool, in paper form or digital, is completed by educators and communicated to the parents who can then pass it on to the concerned professionals at school for school entry.

## Conception of the tool

In 2006, the preoccupation about the transition to school allowed several professionals, from Ville-Emard-Côte-St-Paul district, to develop a collaboration project. Rallying Early Childhood Education (ECE) settings, community organizations, school board as well as the CSSS du Sud-Ouest de Verdun, the Moving on to school committee made it possible to identify the challenges of the transition for the various partners and create the Moving on to School tool. Since 2008, several districts use the tool to support the child and family in this path by promoting the continuity of an environment to the other. Several pedagogical concerns have guided the design of this tool. Indeed, the Moving on to School tool:

- Should be understood as a tool to communicate observations made by a professional, not as an "assessment" tool.
- Aims to enable the professional to draw an overall picture and description of the child and to communicate its strengths and challenges.
- Recognizes the parent as the central partner, carrier of information from one environment to another.
- Allows the kindergarten teacher and professionals of the school environment to promote the implementation of interventions that are part of a continuity of experience and the child's needs.

## A tool for children in the 3 to 5 age range

The Moving on to School tool should be understood as a presentation of skills that are developed on a CONTINUUM of development in the interval from 3 to 5 years. There by, the set of skills presented must not all be mastered to "be ready to enter school". The tool demonstrates many skills to allow the educator to give a global developmental profile in all its variations. The items in the tool therefore do not consist of thresholds or success criteria. The educator who

completes it must keep the specific to the child's age developmental benchmarks in mind to give a portrait of his skills. It is therefore possible to use it for the child who will enter the kindergarten either at 4 or 5 years old.

# The Tool: Instructions for use





### The Educator

Following her daily observations, the educator completes the Moving on to school using the symbols from the legend. A section is also provided, if necessary, to specify a child's specific needs and the winning strategies implemented in the ECE.

- It is suggested to complete the tool in spring (April or May). Some settings complete it twice a year to observe the development of the child (once in the fall, once in the spring).
- It is important to give the parents a second copy for the school.



#### **The Parent**

As mentioned in the presentation of the tool, the parent is the carrier of the information. He is giving the "school copy" to bring to the kindergarten teacher during the first visit to the school. Some ECE settings even fills the tool with the parent. This moment of exchange allows the educator to know the parent's perceptions concerning the development of his or her child as well as his questions and concerns about the transition and the entry at school.

There is also a «parent's booklet» for parents of children who have not attended ECE setting. This booklet can be distributed by the school during welcome days.



### The Teacher

The teacher invites the parents to give a copy of the Moving on to school tool as soon as at first contact. She/he becomes aware of the profile of the children who will attend her/his class to promote educational continuity through a better knowledge of their strengths, needs and challenges. When a child has benefited from a specific support in an ECE setting, and that the parents have signed the consent for the transmission of information included in the tool, the school can communicate with professionals who have been involved with the child.

# Legend Explanation

The legend does not present a "met/not met" success scale. Rather, it describes in a quality way, each of the child's developmental skills and the level of support needed. It thus allows to highlight the child's CONTINUUM of development.

Symbols Meaning		Clarifications on the meaning		
+		Ex.:		
	It is easy for me	<ul> <li>The child is comfortable using skill, it is easy for the child</li> </ul>		
		<ul> <li>The child uses and practices this skill often</li> </ul>		
		<ul> <li>It has been observed that the child has used this skill several times and in different contexts</li> </ul>		
		Ex.:		
	With support, I progress	<ul> <li>The child practices this skill with support, assistance</li> </ul>		
		<ul> <li>This skill has just emerged</li> </ul>		
		<ul> <li>The child is making progress, and is supported in the development of this skill</li> </ul>		
<b>✓</b>		Ex.:		
	Despite the support, it's a challenge for me	<ul> <li>Despite the use of adapted, frequent and sustained strategies as well as various opportunities to practice this skill, its use remains difficult.</li> </ul>		
N		Ex.:		
	Unobserved	<ul> <li>The child does not have that skill at the mo- ment</li> </ul>		
		or		
		<ul> <li>The skill has not yet been observed (due to lack of suitable context, time, material, etc.)</li> </ul>		

re are examples of ob	served facts (inte	erest, strength, j	orogress, riext s	tep)	



Needs related to which developmental domain. Winning strategies put in place at ECE setting to meet the child's needs:



## Original idea and design

#### Moving on to school Committee

Ville-Émard-Côte-St-Paul à Montréal, 2008

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- Les organismes communautaires familles, les écoles ainsi que les milieux de garde du quartier Ville-Émard-Côte-St-Paul

Logo original «Passage à l'école» par Katia Rozzi, infographiste

#### **Revised version 2018:**

- CASIOPE, Centre d'aide et de soutien aux intervenants et organismes en petite enfance: Karine Busilacchi, orthopédagogue, Stéphanie Millette-Brisebois, psychoéducatrice, Paule Dionne, psychoéducatrice et Loriana Giuliani, M.Sc. en psychoéducation.
- Consultation des milieux utilisateurs des différents comités porteurs de soutien à la transition scolaire à travers le Québec

#### Conception and update 2022:

- Amisgest Technologies: Maxime Beaumont, Frédéric Blouin, Francis Ouellet et Éric Rousseau
- Hop Design stratégique: Audrey Blouin, Cynthia Breton-Labelle
- Judith Lalumière, CASIOPE: English translation

#### Références:

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The Moving on to school tool is also available in the application Small Steps.

https://casiope.org/journal-de-bord-a-petits-pas/

For more information contact www.casiope.org or 514-523-6628

## **Parental Consent**



Valid from (date) \_\_\_\_\_ for a 12 months period.

# General consent (for all parents)

I authorize the				(name of school) to communicate
with			(name	of the ECE setting) to get information of
my child's experience	e during his/her stay in t	that setting.		
Yes	Yes, only if I'm adv	vised first	□ No	
Parent's name:				
Signature:				_
Specific cons	ent			
My child benefited f	rom a support develop	mental plan		
During the period of		until		
concerning his/her:				
Socio-Emotional I	Development	<ul><li>Language Dev</li></ul>	elopment	
☐ Motor Developme	ent	Autonomy		
Cognitive Develop	oment	Other:		
This support develop	mental plan was establ	ished with the collabo	oration of:	
CLSC professional:				
Community Organiza	ations:			
Hospital specialist: _				
Other:				
For more information	n, I authorize the school	professionals to com	municate with t	he
(name of the ECE) sta	aff that were implicated	l in my child's support	developmenta	I plan using this contact information:
Parent's name:				
Signature:				