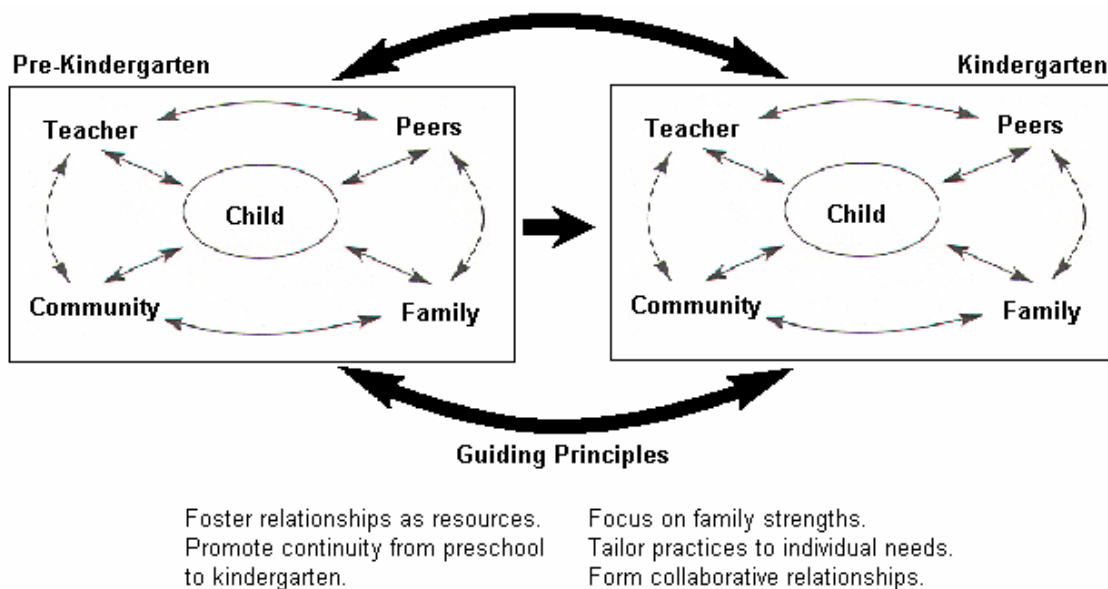


Kindergarten Transition

The transition to kindergarten is fundamentally a matter of establishing a relationship between the home and the school in which the child's development is the key focus or goal.¹ Transitions involve children and families moving from one setting to another and transition services involve preparing families and children for this move, supporting them during the move, and maintaining contact with them after the move.² Positive transition for children from any early childhood experience (e.g. home, center and home daycare providers, Head Start, organized pre-kindergarten programs) to Kindergarten promotes school success and achievement.³ Transition is the shared responsibility of many, including the school community, child care providers, families, peers and community partners.⁴



¹ Docket, S. & Perry, B., (2001). Starting School: Effective Transitions. *Early Childhood Research & Practice*, 3(2), 1-27.

² Pianta, R.C., Rimm-Kaufman, S.E., & Cox, M.J. (1999), Introduction: An ecological approach to kindergarten. In *The Transition to Kindergarten*. Baltimore, MD: Paul H. Brookes Publishing.

³ National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) Study of Early Childcare; Abecedarian Study; and High/Scope Perry Preschool Study

⁴ Bronfenbrenner and Morris (1998) bioecological model and Pianta and Walsh's (1996) contextual systems model.