

REPORT SNAPSHOT

Choosing a school

- Trusted friends & the school prospectus or website: the most common sources of advice for parents choosing a school.
- 96% of mothers rated educational resources as the most important factor for choosing a school, followed by a 'good reputation' (92%).

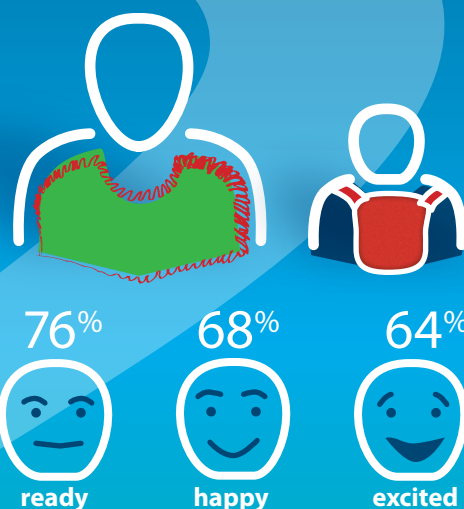
Getting ready for school

Of the children:

- 98% had completed a B4SC by the time they were at school
- 98% had attended ECE in the six months before starting school

Of the mothers:

- 97% of mothers had actively engaged in transition activities with their child, e.g. school visits
- 76% felt their child was ready for school, 68% said their child was happy to go to school and 64% said their child was excited about going to school



Adjusting to school

- "Fitting in socially" and "making friends": mothers' main concerns for their children starting school
- Less than a month: the time it took most children and mothers to adjust to school
- 70% of mothers and 72% of children had no difficulty when starting school

Being at school

Of the children:

99%

were attending primary school by age six

85%

were attending a state primary school and 26% had experienced a Modern Learning Environment* in their first year of school

10%

were in classes of 15 children or less and around 6% in classes of 30+ students. The most common class size was 20-25 children

12%

had moved school at least once before they were six. 25% of mothers also reported their child had had at least one change in classroom teacher

24%

attended after school care, 8% attended before school care

51%

had experienced the Milk for Schools programme and 10% of children had experienced a breakfast club

3/4

More than 3/4 lived within five kilometers of their school but only a quarter of children used active forms of transport such as walking, biking or scootering. 68% travelled to/from school by car.

88%

were regularly involved in some way with their children's school

Of the mothers:



More than 2/3 were satisfied the current school was meeting their child's needs across key areas



20%

of mothers were still experiencing difficulties more than six months after their children started school



NB: The information contained in the above infographic, and the remainder of this report, is based on a Data Collection Wave participation rate of 84% (of all mothers of the 6853 cohort children).

* Refer 'The Modern Learning Environment': Section 5, page 67 of this Transition to school report.