

Prepare your class and your classroom

It is not always possible to have advanced notice of a new arrival to your class but when it is, it is nice to get the children in the class ready and set the classroom up too. As a teacher, you will know if any of these ideas will work for your class, so pick and choose the ones that suit!

Task	Done
Tell the class about the new arrival – explain where they come from, their name and any other relevant information.	
Explain where the new child will sit on their first day but that soon they might move once their assessment is done.	
Get your class to create welcome posters or cards for the new arrival – it will help them feel a sense of belonging and children do love to draw!	
Ensure there are things on the wall containing the new child's first language or places from where they lived – you can look on google for these.	
Pick the child(ren) that will be class buddies and explain their important role.	
Where possible get a bilingual dictionary and some bilingual stories for the new child to use.	
Try to learn a few key words or phrases in the child's first language – encourage them to use in in class.	