

Transitions are ongoing for children and young people from refugee backgrounds. As this chart shows, your students will have been exposed to a series of forced transitions prior to arriving in Australia and, post-arrival, a further series of challenging settlement transitions.

PRE ARRIVAL

EDUCATION

No education or interruptions to education
(in 1st / 2nd or 3rd language)

TRAUMA AND VIOLENCE

Experience of trauma and violence
Managing effects of trauma and violence

PLACE

Home → Displacement → Refugee Camp
Refugee Camp → Transit country
Refugee Camp
Transit country

CULTURE

Values, norms, connection to culture, disruption to
or loss of culture

FAMILY

Separation, loss, possible changing roles, changing
configuration

INDIVIDUAL

Development tasks of childhood and adolescence

SYSTEMS & ENVIRONMENT

In transit countries / refugee camps

POST ARRIVAL

Movement between language centres, mainstream schools &
year levels. Changing schools, post compulsory pathways

Possible experiences of trauma during resettlement
Ongoing management of effects of trauma and violence

HOUSING SECURITY

Short term housing
Secondary / tertiary settlement

NEGOTIATING CULTURES

Integrating, disconnecting and the experience of
negotiating within new cultural environments

Possible changing configuration and responsibilities,
progress in negotiating new cultural norms

Psychosocial wellbeing, personal skills, connections to
others progress in negotiating new cultural norms

RESETTLEMENT SYSTEMS & ENVIRONMENT

New language, health, transport, education. Wider
community attitudes, structures and initiatives to support /
build skills and connections with new cultural groups