



Getting Ready for School

Dear Parents/Carers,

This leaflet has been designed for the Parents/Carers of children starting school in September 2021. It outlines some ideas and activities that you may wish to take part in at home in order to begin to get your child ready to start school. As we all know starting school can be an emotional and sometimes challenging time for both parents and children. This leaflet aims to alleviate some of the worries that you and your children may have. If you need further advice or have any worries or concerns about your child starting school please do not hesitate to contact us.

Thank you

The Early Years Team

Here are a few ideas of the types of activities that your child will be expected to do when they begin school. Completing them at home will help your child to gain in confidence and make settling into school easier.

Numbers

- Sing favourite number rhymes i.e. 'five little monkeys', 'ten fat sausages' using fingers to show how many.
- Practice counting to 10/20 using objects and fingers.
- Make the numbers to 10 using play dough or craft materials. Can your child recognise each number?
- Practice writing the numbers to 10 using chalks, crayons and pens.

Literacy

- Help your child to practice writing their name. You could use paints, pencils, crayons or chalks. Can they recognise the first letter sound?
- Begin to practice the letter sounds. You could use puzzles or make the sounds using play dough.
- Share favourite books at home and discuss the pictures.
- Can your child talk about their favourite story?

Shapes

- Look around your home and find different shapes. Can your child recognise and name a square, rectangle, triangle and circle?
- Make a model using junk boxes and packages. Can your child name the shapes they have used?

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

- Discuss why we need to wash our hands and keep clean.
- Can your child use the toilet unaided and wipe their own bottom?
- Help your child to practice getting dressed and undressed independently.
- Can your child put on their own shoes and socks?
- Can they zip up their coat?
- Discuss the importance of sharing and taking turns.
- Talk about things which make people happy and sad.
- Help your child to make healthy food choices.
- Can your child have a try at cutting up their own food?
- Encourage your child to recognise their belongings. Can they recognise their name on their book bag, coat, jumper etc?

Expressive Arts and Design

- Is your child able to hold and use scissors correctly? Help them to cut paper safely.
- Share craft activities together at home and talk about what you have made.
- Can your child sing a simple nursery rhyme or song?
- Can your child recognise different colours?