

Willingness to communicate

Being able to talk to the adults and other children in school is vital for every child as they settle into school. Your child will want to talk to their friends as they play, to explain their ideas and create stories. They will also need to be able to ask for help if they need to.

At home, encourage your child to talk clearly and confidently about the world around them, especially when exploring new situations.



Being independent



At school your child will be encouraged to have a go at doing lots of things for themselves, especially in terms of organising their own things! Help your child to remember what their belongings look like and help them by getting them to have a go at being responsible for carrying them into school!

Toileting

At school, it would be really helpful if your child is able to manage their own toileting and personal hygiene. We will be there to help any child who needs some support but it is important that they are willing to have a go on their own.



Scissors and pencils

Using pencils and scissors can be really tricky for little hands and it requires lots of practise.

In school we will do lots of activities to strengthen gross and fine motor skills but there are lots of fun things you can do at home to help too. Why not play games such as Operation or Buckeroo?!

Try threading games, using tweezers, playing with dough and using pegs!



Dressing and undressing

At school we will often change into PE kit, pull on coats and water proofs, swap into wellies and even try on dressing-up clothes! Zips, buttons, Velcro, tights and pulling clothes on can all be tricky for children so praise your child at home when they have a go! Help them to practise getting dressed independently and also show them, how to make sure their clothes are the right way around!



Eating

At school the children will eat their lunch with their friends and will be supervised by lunchtime assistants. If your child is having hot dinners please help them to practise using a knife and fork, as well as sitting at a table to eat. If not, support them in being independent in opening their own packets and eating tidily.



Supporting your child with settling into school



As your child starts school there are lots of things you can do to support them. We will offer more ideas to support with specific areas soon. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact us!

Separating from carers

Settling into the school environment can be tricky for some children and they may feel unhappy when you drop them off. Help your child by reassuring them that you will be back to pick them up soon and keep dropping off times brief.



Reading and counting



Share books with your child every day. Encourage a love of stories and show them how to look after their books. Ask them to answer questions about the story, recognise familiar characters and join in with repeated phrases. Make learning letter sounds fun by keeping sessions quick and easy and by looking for letters everywhere you go, especially those in their name!

Being able to count is a fundamental skill. Help your child to develop a love of numbers by counting everyday objects and actions, such as steps, stairs and cars.

Positive attitudes towards learning with others

Your child will interact with lots of other children at school, in many different situations. We will do lots of work on sharing, empathy, cooperation and taking turns. All children and adults will be expected to show respect to each other and their learning environment and resources.

