



Ready for School

A guide on how you can help your child settle in at school

Our aim is to work with you to make sure that your child's move to school is a happy and positive experience.

Starting school is an exciting time for children and parents but it can also be a worrying time too.

This booklet has been produced to help both you and your child get ready for starting their school journey.

Your child doesn't need to be able to read, write or do sums before they start school. Children start school with a wide range of abilities and their teacher will be skilled at helping children progress at their own level.

Most Early Years teachers agree that, for a child starting school, being able to listen and to talk are more important than any academic skills.

You can encourage this by:

- Reading together and discussing books and stories
- Asking them questions
- Playing with friends
- Singing nursery rhymes

Ensuring that your child is as independent as possible will really help them settle in at school.

Activities that help support independence include:

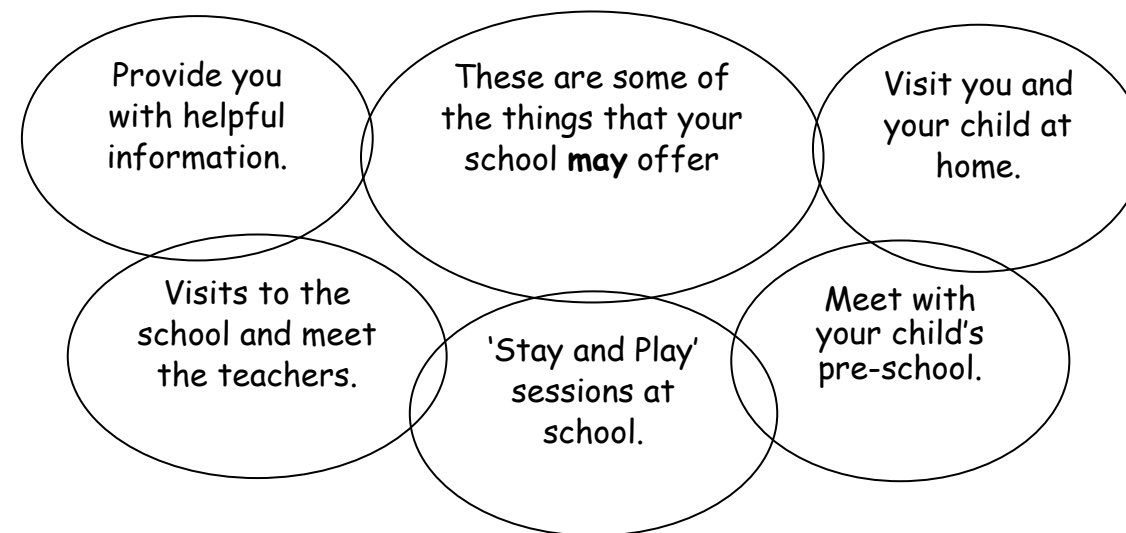
- going to the toilet on their own
- dressing and undressing by themselves
- knowing what their belongings look like
- washing their hands
- feeding themselves
- tidying up their own toys
- walk independently as much as possible

It is important for your pre-school provider to know which school your child will be attending. This will enable key workers and staff to support your child by talking about that school in particular.

If you have any concerns about filling in forms for school, please do ask your pre-school or nursery provider to help you.

Talking with your new school and sharing the knowledge that you have about your child is invaluable.

Like you, we all want the best for your child. Pre-schools and schools have excellent relationships and communicate regularly to ensure your child's needs are met as they start their school journey!



You may have many questions to ask.

A member of staff at your child's pre-school/nursery or school will be happy to address any questions or concerns you may have.

Also your school's website is a great place to find out more information about the school and what is happening. Many schools are now tweeting so you could follow them to get regular updates on activities in school.

Remember, you know your child better than anyone!

We all wish to work together to support your child to ensure they have the best possible start at school.

Most of all, we want your child to be happy and excited to come to their new school.

There are lots of great websites out there to support you and your child, these are just a few you may find useful.

- www.pacey.org.uk - Fantastic tips and ideas about how best to support your child.
- www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/ - Helpful tips & activities to support children's learning.
- www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/grownups - Lots of great activities & advice.
- www.familylives.org.uk - Advice and support for parents.
- www.foundationyears.org.uk/2015/03/what-to-expect-when-a-parents-guide/ - A guide on children's learning and development 0-5yrs.

Produced by STEP Teaching School Alliance Schools and our local pre-school providers

www.stepteachingschool.co.uk