



How to support your child with the transition to school.

PSED skills (Personal, Social and Emotional) INDEPENDENCE

In Reception Class



Dressing and Undressing

At school we often change into PE kit, put 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!

No laces please! Velcro or buckle shoes.
Velcro pumps are the easiest to put on for P.E
Name everything ~ including shoes.

Toileting

At school, children should be able to manage their own toileting and personal hygiene ~ showing independence when using and flushing the toilet whilst having a good understanding of using soap and water to wash their hands.
We will encourage children who need support but it is important that they are willing to have a go on their own.

Pop a spare pair of pants in your child's P.E bag - if they do have an unexpected accident we often see children who are more comfortable changing into their own underwear rather than a school spare pair.


Eating

At school 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 they will be having school sandwiches, please support them in being independent in opening their own packets and eating tidily.

Please encourage your child to attempt eating with a knife and fork.



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Literacy skills ~ Reading	
In Reception Class	 Idea
Rhyming Rhyming is a key skill. Children will be exposed to a lot of rhyming work in the Autumn term -	*Can your child identify rhyming words? *Can they continue a rhyming string? E.g. cat, hat, ___? etc *Have fun making up rhyming silly names e.g. Toby Woby, Jacob Bacob.... *Read lots of rhyming books.
Alliteration *Silly Sausage, Percy Pig, Jumping Jacob, running rabbit	Can your child identify words which start with the same sounds?
Oral Blending E.g. adult says c-a-t and child can say the word is cat	Try oral blending with these simple words... c-o-a-t, b-a-g, d-o-g, m-a-t, h-a-t, p-i-g, r-e-d, f-o-g, r-u-n, s-o-ck etc
Reading 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.



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Literacy skills ~ Reading and writing

In Reception Class



Letter Sounds

At the start of Reception children use the **sounds** of the letters **not** the letter names.

Prior to September ~ we cannot stress enough that children are not expected to know their letter sounds on entry to school, only introduce the letters if you feel your child is ready and is secure in the 3 key Literacy skills on the previous page.

If you do feel your child is ready ~ ***MOST IMPORTANT FOR AN ADULT TO MODEL***
Saying the letter sounds correctly to your child. Common letters incorrectly pronounced are: m, r, l, p, t, x, n

*Google: 'Correct articulation of phonemes' to hear how to say the sounds correctly.
*Teach Your Monster To Read is a good website for phonics games which uses the correct articulation of sounds
*Practise the Jolly Phonic actions for letters ~ YouTube.

Writing

Be a good role model ~ use lower case letters when writing. Do not write in capital letters except for the start of names and/or places.
When children are used to writing capital letters it can be a very hard habit to break.

Google: Correct pencil grip picture 'triangulation' or 'tripod' grip.



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 Idea

Scissor skills

Children's scissor skills can often be overlooked, it is a key skill which we practise in the Autumn term.

- *Buy a child's pair of scissors ~ you can get left handed scissors, these are usually green and yellow.
- *Provide lots of cutting opportunities, talk about scissor safety
- *Correct your child's scissor hold

Strong fine motor skills and hand exercises

Before a child begins to try and write letters it is extremely important for their fingers and hands to be strong with good muscle development.

- *Pinterest Fine motor skills/finger gym activities
- *Games such as 'Operation' or 'Buckaroo'
- *Playing with playdough
- *Baking activities
- *Painting



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Maths skills

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Understanding a number

It is a key skill for children to understand what a number means/represents.

- *Being able to show how many fingers a number is...
'Show me 4... show me 8 etc
- *Counting out a set number of objects e.g. can count out 4 things, 6 things etc - count with anything, pasta, cars, apples etc

Recognising shapes, children will learn about

2D 'flat shapes' square, circle, rectangle, star, triangle
3D 'solid shapes' cone, sphere, cube, pyramid

Use household objects to talk about 3D shapes ~ a cube tissue box, cylinder kitchen towel middle etc

