



Starting Reception



When your child starts primary school there are a number of skills that they should ideally be working towards or already be able to do. Each child develops at their own rate and will find certain skills easier than others, but the information below provides suggestions of skills that your child could master that will help them when starting school.

Self-care

- I can wipe my nose with a tissue
- I can use the toilet independently, including flushing and wiping my bottom
- I can wash and dry my hands before eating, after using the toilet and when they are dirty
- I can ask for help if I feel unwell, hurt myself or am unsure about something
- I have an established bedtime routine so that I am not too tired on school days

Reading and Writing

- I can sit and listen to stories that are read to me
- I can talk about my favourite story
- I can join in with a predictable phrase within a story
- I can look at picture books independently
- I can recognise my own name when it is written down
- I am beginning to write my own name
- I can trace over patterns, shapes and objects
- I can mark make with a range of writing implements
- I can carry out fine motor activities such as threading beads on a string
- I am beginning to hold my pencil correctly

Interest in the world

- I am interested in the world around me
- I like to ask questions
- I am interested in exploring new activities and games
- I have favourite topics that I like to talk about

Eating

- I can use a knife and fork to eat my main meal
- I can use a spoon to eat yoghurts, ice creams or custards
- I can sit still at a table to eat my lunch or a snack
- I can carry a small plastic plate and my cutlery to the sink once I have finished eating

Independence

- I can separate from my parents or carers independently once I have a comfortable routine
- I can look after toys and play with them appropriately
- I can tidy away my belongings when I have finished with them
- I am happy to try new things

Speaking and Listening

- I can sit and listen for short periods of time
- I can follow simple instructions
- I am able to talk about myself, my needs and my feelings
- I can follow simple rules

Social skills

- I can share toys and take turns with other children
- I can play a short game with other children or adults
- I can interact with other children and adults

Getting dressed and undressed

- I can put my coat on and am learning to do up any buttons or zips
- I can put my school uniform and PE kit on with a degree of independence
- I can put my school shoes and socks on with a degree of independence

Counting skills

- I can practise counting out objects up to 10
- I can join in with number rhymes
- I am beginning to recognise some numbers up to 10