

School Readiness



The first building blocks

- You know your children brilliantly- share the information with us at your visit- we will be able to use this to take your child forward.
- Our main aim initially is the well-being of the children. If we get this right then the learning will come.
- We will get to know your individual children and we will take them all forward- this journey will look different for each child



Preparing for starting school

- What will make a difference...
 - A loving, caring home where your child feels they are valued and have a voice
 - Time spent with your child whenever you can- experiences with them will have a huge impact
 - Modelling secure language and social skills
 - Family meal times and modelling use of cutlery
 - Time to explore and express themselves
 - Developing independence of your child in terms of their self-care e.g. toileting and getting dressed

Language about school at home...

Language of emotions

- Talking to your child about their feelings and helping them to understand they are okay and how to manage these
- Vocabulary of emotions – talking to your child helping them name and understand different feelings.
- Resilience – ensuring your child is prepared to have a go, know it is acceptable to make mistakes and keep on trying.

Children pick up on your feelings and emotions and attitudes to school and staff
If you are anxious they will be too.

- Be positive
- Keep calm
- Expect tears at first or later as they realise its everyday! We will be here for cuddles for them
- Expect tiredness in time of change





Our curriculum

- There are Prime areas and Specific areas
- Prime = PSED, Communication and Language, Physical development which lead into...
- Specific = Literacy, Maths, Understanding the World and Expressive Arts and Design
- Our initial priority is the Prime areas- without these the children will have barrier's to accessing the other areas of learning as deeply as we would like
- Each child will learn differently and this is fantastic
- We must ensure the building blocks are built up sequentially otherwise the tower will begin to have cracks at some point in the future

Ideas for developing the Prime areas...

- PSED....

The loving things parents do every day such as cuddling, comforting, talking, playing, being proud of every achievement and celebrating it in the family, are the foundations of successful personal, social and emotional development. We are all competent learners from birth and it is usually our parents who give us the confidence to keep learning and stretching the boundaries of our understanding.

- Playdates
- Give your child time to talk and express emotions- using the language "It is okay to feel..."
- Allow opportunities for sharing and challenge- model the language for taking turns
- Visit different places and discuss the day/ how they felt/ what they liked/ what they would like to do again



Ideas for developing the Prime areas...

- Communication and Language

- Talk, Talk, Talk
- Model a conversation- listening and responding
- Play games
- Read stories and sing rhymes
- Join in with their games
- Talk through what they are doing and add new vocabulary to develop their repertoire
- Develop their understanding of language through games and stories
- Don't underestimate what they can take on board



Ideas for developing the Prime areas...

- Physical Development....

- Visit green spaces– let your child run, jump, climb, splash in puddles
- Practise using large scale play equipment
- Play with things like Lego, Duplo, building bricks
- Activities to build the strength in their shoulders, elbow, wrists and hand
e.g. squirting bottles filled with water
- Use playdough to build strength
- Getting undressed and dressed independently
- Putting on their coats
- Feeding themselves
- Toileting

