



















GETTING READY FOR 'BIG' SCHOOL

To aid your child's preparation for life in school and preparation for independence it would be helpful if they could do these things for themselves before they start school.





1. Go to the toilet by him/herself
2. Use a tissue/handkerchief
3. Be able to use a knife and fork
4. Do up own buttons and zips. Dress and undress themselves
5. Change shoes, Wellingtons, plimsolls
6. Hang up coat and hat
7. Recognise own name on clothing
8. Know, and be able to say clearly, name and address
9. Able to respond to questions asked
10. Sit quietly for a time
11. Can sit on their bottom (cross-legged)
12. Recognise and name primary colours
13. Listen to a story for a sustained period of time
14. Know numbers 1 - 10
15. Write his/her own name
16. Be familiar with a book
17. Have some experience of the noise
larger groups of children make playing

Preparing your child for Reception Class is vital for a great start to their education at primary school. Here at Kingsnorth Church of England Primary School we encourage a high level of independence, especially giving the children a chance to think independently. It is therefore imperative that at home you too give your child the best start by providing opportunities for them to think and ask questions, play with a variety of toys and being given a chance to speak.

This can be done in a number of ways, nearly all of which are free!

-  Sing along and dance to music, even play their own make-shift instruments such as banging a pan with a wooden spoon!
-  Chance to play with balls, bats, hoops, climbing equipment, bikes, scooters, push and pull toys
-  Visit places of interest such as the seaside, parks, woods, church or other place of worship
-  Experience playing with friends their own age and practising skills such as sharing, taking turns, negotiating rules for their play
-  Having the chance to make new friends and being encouraged to speak and interact with another child unknown to them (obviously with a responsible adult nearby!)
-  Being given opportunities to experience art and crafts such as sticking, cutting with suitable age appropriate scissors, drawing, colouring, painting etc.
-  Experiencing moulding with playdough (this is easily made with ingredients found in the kitchen cupboards) or simple cooking with an adult
-  Fixing basic puzzles/jigsaws together
-  Being outside for a bug hunt
-  Taking a walk and exploring nature around them
-  Making collections such as a leaf collection in Autumn
-  Being able to follow one instruction at a time; please find your shoes then moving onto 2 instructions such as; please find your shoes and put them on
-  Being given the responsibility of dressing and undressing themselves
-  Being competent putting on their coat and shoes unaided
-  Having the confidence of greeting an adult they know
-  Being able to decide between 2 options, for example, a banana or apple for snack?

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-  Being able to ask to go to the toilet and managing the task mostly themselves.
-  Belonging to the local library and using their own card to take out suitable books
-  Sharing a story with an adult and talking about what they see, understand and are wondering about
-  Listening to stories in a group

It is the children who join our school with a background of these experiences that make the quickest progress with their learning and therefore the best start in their school career!