



Starting Halcombe School



Starting school is such an exciting time in the life of a child and their family.



These are some questions to think about a child's readiness for school:

- Do they have their own ideas?
- Can they follow instructions?
- Do they show interest in other children?
- Do they interact with other children?
- Can they share and recognise their feelings and needs?
- Are they able to separate from parents/carers?



School readiness is more relevant to characteristics than skills such as listening, asking questions, being curious to learn, experience with books, taking turns and sharing, expressing thoughts and ideas with others.



When starting school if the child is able to do the following school life is easier, making a smooth happy transition.

Self Help Skills

- Undress and dress themselves, especially shoes.
- Toilet themselves.
- Look after their clothes

Academic Knowledge

- Basic shapes
- Know and recognise their name.
- Know some letters and numbers.
- Draw, use pencils and pens.

Listening Skills

- Being able to sit and listen for a period of time.

How Can You Help?

- Read to your child.
- Teach songs and nursery rhymes.
- Show an awareness of letter and numbers.
- Create opportunities for them to play with other children
- Respond to their questions, discover and learn new things together.
- Love them and praise them often.
- Foster independence – get them to carry their own bag & coat.
Decide on their own lunch.
- Create times when your child is without you.



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