

Great Bridge Primary School

Nursery



A guide to preparing your child for nursery

Your child's journey to nursery school begins at home.



Part 1

Dear Parents/Carers

We understand that all children develop at their own pace, and that they are all learning from birth. When it's time to start nursery school, some children will need more help than others. There are key skills that schools expect children to be learning before they attend their first day. Practising these will make your child's journey to Nursery as positive as possible. There's lots you can do at home to build your child's confidence and independence, helping them feel emotionally and practically prepared to start nursery school.

We're looking forward to welcoming you and your child to our school community.

Great Bridge Primary Nursery Team

Starting Nursery 1. Growing independence

Taking care of themselves



Taking off their coat and shoes, starting to put on their coat.

Beginning to use the toilet and washing their hands.



Using a fork/spoon and drinking from an open cup.



Spending time away from you, learning they can be looked after by caring adults.

Play, creativity and curiosity



Engaging in imaginative play (e.g. role play "at the doctor")

Mark making, painting and sticking



Sharing story books with caregivers, looking at pictures and talking about the story

Exploring the world around them (e.g. looking closely at the natural world or playing safely with objects at home)



Starting Nursery-2. Building relationships and communicating

Being with others



Practicing sharing and taking turns with toys



Talking to them about how they are feeling and why



Looking at story books together and speaking about what characters are feeling is a good way to do this

Encouraging them to set boundaries for themselves (e.g. knowing how that 'no' means they need to stop)



Communication and language



Singing along with songs and nursery rhymes

Talking happily to others

Showing they need help by speaking clearly (in basic English or sign language) e.g. saying 'help me'



Listening and engaging



Paying attention for short periods of time

Listening to and following simple instructions

