

St. Bede's Catholic Infant School - EYFS - 2021-22

Getting Your Child Ready For School

Literacy



Comprehension -

Read as many books as possible - enjoy sharing them.

Children who are familiar with and enjoy books are much more likely to want to read:

- Talk about what you can see in the pictures.
- Ask your child what they think will happen next.
- Ask why they think something has happened
- Encourage them to re-tell familiar stories in their own words.

Phonics -

In school we use 'Jolly Phonics'. The related songs can be found by typing 'Jolly Phonics Songs' into google. (They're free!)

Playing 'I spy' is a good way of helping your child to hear sounds in words.

You could also try looking for items in your home that begin with a certain letter.



Writing -

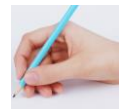
Most children starting school are unable to write as we recognise writing.

It is important to encourage them to draw / colour / paint / use playdough / cut, as through doing this they will develop their fine motor control and ultimately be able to form letters correctly.

Pencil grip s important and children should be encouraged to hold their pencil correctly.

While children may not yet know how to write letters or words, it is a good idea to support them to 'play' write. They can make shopping lists or write letters even if they are just making marks. This will enable them to feel like they can do it. Encourage them to tell you what their 'writing' says.

If your child is forming letters, take a look at our website where you will find guidance on correct letter formation. (Go to Classes- Reception - Letter Formation.)



Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Support your child to work co-operatively and share. This is best done through playing games or with toys.

It is also important that your child develops some independence - can they entertain themselves, play with their toys without your input?

Encourage confidence expressing personal thoughts and ideas - let them lead the conversation and listen to and talk about their ideas.

Support your child to explore a range of activities - encourage participation in less preferred activities to support the development of their confidence and self-esteem.

Communication and Language

Talk, talk, talk, talk, talk!

Nothing supports the development of your child's self-confidence and understanding more than being able to express their thoughts and ideas, using a growing range of vocabulary.

Talk about:

What they see - in the world around them

What they think - clarifying their thoughts and feelings

Support your child to speak in full sentences, to use appropriate tenses and to listen carefully.

Nursery rhymes and simple songs are really helpful - correct mispronunciations by modelling the correct way yourself.

Mathematics



Number -

Practice recognition, ordering and formation of numbers to 5 and then to 10. If your child is confident with this work with numbers up to 20.

Use your fingers, the stairs, kitchen cupboard door etc to number and sequence.

Talk about more and less and bigger and smaller numbers. (Use stories such as 'Goldilocks' and rhymes such as '1,2,3,4,5, once I caught a fish alive.'

Look at door numbers, numbers on television etc.

Numbersongs on CBeebies iPlayer

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episodes/p075jwc2/numbersongs>

Numberblocks on CBeebies iPlayer

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/b08bzzns/numberblocks-series-1-one> or

YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPlwvN0w4qFSP1FIALB92w>.

Language and the development of mathematical vocabulary is essential to the development of children's understanding. Talk about:

- The size of objects - length, height, width etc. - make comparisons eg which is the tallest? Which bottle has the most in?
- Shapes - what are their names and what do they look like? Can you make shape pictures?
- Time - what day is it? Talk about today, yesterday, tomorrow etc.

Expressive Arts and Design



Enjoy drawing, colouring, painting and craft activities to help your child to express their ideas.

Try colour mixing and experimenting with different textures.

Don't forget that when your child is playing with cars, dolls, figures, dressing up, they are being creative and this play helps them to develop their imagination. Support them by joining in with their play. This will also help them to develop their language and vocabulary.



Sing songs, dance, make music!

Physical Development

Gross and Fine Motor Control -

Any activity: running, jumping, climbing, bike riding football, basketball, skipping etc helps to develop your child's control and agility. Encourage your child to try things, to persevere.

Fine motor control can be developed through using pencils, paint etc to make marks - start with big marks on big pieces of paper - a child needs to be able to scribble, then make controlled marks before they can colour in neatly.

Play dough and craft activities also really help with this development as does your child using their fingers, hands or whole body to accompany songs and rhymes.

Taking Care of Themselves

Help your child to make healthy choices about food.

Support them to use a knife and fork effectively.

Work towards your child using the toilet independently. Ensure they know how to wash their hand effectively.

Understanding the World

Past and Present -

Look at family photographs, share memories of the good times you've shared together.

Talk about what you do each day.

People, Culture and Communities -

Talk about the different jobs people have and how people help us.

Talk about how your child will get to know new people - share the 'Meet the Team' photographs on our website

The Natural World -

Be observant - talk about the changes that are happening in the world around us - how plants are growing, how the weather is changing.

Think and talk about what things are made of and why.

Consider how we can care for our environment.



Technology -

Use child friendly programs on computers or i-pads.

Remember all of the other technology in our homes - the washing machine, a kettle etc. - What are they for and how do they work?