



Preparing Children for School

Each year World Book Day, at the beginning of March, signals the start of our school readiness programme for our children that will be leaving us to start school in September. Throughout their time with us, we are carefully preparing children for the next step in their learning, however from March to July, we have more of a focus on preparing children for school.

So how do we prepare the children?

All children start a reading scheme – at first books do not have words as we encourage children to predict by looking at the pictures, however as children increases their knowledge of letters and sounds, we introduce books with words.

Each child is given a writing book so that we can track the progress of their early mark making through to forming recognisable letters.

We take the children to our nearest primary school where they can experience a school environment and spend time in the reception class and playground.

We offer outdoors Spanish lessons so that children become used to different adults teaching them.

Our letters and sounds groups become more focussed on initial letter sounds and blending sounds together to make words.

We play mathematical games to help children with numbers and mathematical concepts.

We ensure that all children can manage with the toilet, their own personal hygiene and putting their own coats on and off.

Through our Taekwondo lessons we teach children how to keep themselves safe using such terms as 'stranger danger'.

In the last few weeks of the summer term, we also ask that you say goodbye to your child outside pre-school, so that they become familiar with walking in by themselves, hanging up their coats and handing in their lunch boxes (as they will have to do at school).

All reception teachers are invited into Pre-School so that they can meet the children and chat to their pre-school Key Person. A summary of children's current levels of development are sent to teachers before children leave pre-school.

Feedback from reception teachers is that children from our pre-school settle very well into their new schools.