Tips for parents

When your child starts primary school there are a number of skills that they should ideally have mastered. Use this sheet as a guide to help track their progress.

**Self-care**
- I know when to wash my hands
- I can wipe my nose
- I can ask for help if I don’t feel well

**Speaking & literacy**
- I am interested in reading stories & looking at picture books
- I am able to talk about myself, my needs & feelings
- I am practising recognising my name when it’s written down

**Getting dressed & undressed on my own**
- I can button & unbutton my clothes
- I can put my own shoes & socks on
- I can put my coat on & use a zip

**Interest in the world & new activities**
- I enjoy learning about the world around me
- I am interested in exploring new activities or environments
- I like asking questions

**Eating**
- I can use a knife & fork
- I can open my packed lunch on my own
- I am confident at opening wrappers & packaging

**Writing skills**
- I like tracing patterns & colouring in
- I enjoy experimenting with different shaped scribbles
- I am practising holding a pencil

**Going to the toilet**
- I can go to the toilet on my own, wipe myself properly & flush
- I can wash & dry my hands without any help

**Independence**
- I am happy to be away from my mummy, daddy or my main carer
- I am happy to tidy my belongings & look after my things
- I am feeling confident about starting school

**Listening & understanding**
- I am able to sit still and listen for a short while
- I can follow instructions
- I understand the need to follow rules

**Sharing & turn taking**
- I can share toys & take turns
- I can play games with others
- I can interact with other children

**Counting skills**
- I enjoy practising counting objects
- I like saying number rhymes & playing counting games
- I can recognise some numbers when they are written down

**Routines**
- I have practised putting on my uniform & getting ready to leave on time
- I have a good bedtime routine so I’m not feeling tired for school
- I’m learning to eat at the times I will on school days