



School Readiness

$1+2=3$ Guide





The Journey to Primary School

Starting school can often feel overwhelming for children, and you likely have numerous questions. You might be pondering which school is the best fit, how the admissions process works, whether your child is prepared, and what essential information they should grasp.





The Journey to Primary School

The 'Journey to Primary School' aspect of our curriculum has been thoughtfully crafted to ensure that all children are fully prepared for this significant transition. We provide your child with a diverse range of opportunities to cultivate the skills, knowledge, and understanding necessary for success in their next educational stage.

Emotional Readiness

Emotional readiness is the most crucial element of school preparations. It is entirely normal for both you and your child to experience a variety of emotions during this transition. It's essential therefore to spend time discussing their feelings about leaving nursery and starting school with their peers. We encourage visits from teachers at local schools, so children can begin to familiarise themselves with their new educators this helps to build bonds from a early stage.

We have included a fantastic science-backed resource from Okido that delves into the topic of 'Emotions,' which is attached to this document.

Independence

Fostering your child's independence during their final year in nursery will significantly aid in their preparation for school. This includes skills such as using the toilet independently, scraping their plates during meals, and changing clothes for outdoor play. They also have the chance to try on uniforms from local schools.



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Independence Continued

If your child still takes a daytime nap, we will collaborate with you to ensure their routine align with school expectations. As children reach the age of two, we increase group sizes so they become accustomed to larger groups during learning experiences. This prepares them for the whole-class situation they will encounter in school.

Academic Readiness

Many families have concerns about their child's academic readiness for school. Providing children with exposure to a broad curriculum guarantees they receive rich and varied experiences. By integrating all areas of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) along with our own Blooming Futures and school readiness program, we lay a strong foundation for your child's transition to school. When your child enters Reception, the principles governing their learning will remain consistent with those at nursery. They will continue to have daily opportunities for play, both indoors and outdoors, and to engage in various play-based learning experiences. While the level of challenge may naturally increase, and the daily structure may differ, they will still be learning within the EYFS framework they experienced here at Blooming Futures Daycare.



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What to Do at Home

As the time for school approaches, here are some helpful suggestions to support your child in feeling confident and secure during this transition.

1. Discuss and Validate Feelings

- Ask your child how they feel about starting school and offer them emotional vocabulary options, such as worried, excited, or nervous.
- Acknowledge any feelings they express and reassure them that these emotions are completely normal.
- It can be beneficial to discuss the specific worries they have and collaboratively brainstorm solutions. For instance, could you find out who will be in their class and arrange some playdates before school begins?

2. Read Books About Starting School

Stories provide an excellent way for your child to explore their feelings about school by connecting with characters and their emotions. They also offer various contexts for discussing the school experience. Your child's key person can recommend some fantastic books you can read together at home which we have here at nursery too.



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What to do at home cont..

3. Walk to the school Practice your journey to school

Take the opportunity to peek at the playground and point out all the fun places your child will be able to play! Doing this regularly will help to make the concept of going to school feel more familiar when the time comes.

4. Shop for school uniform and supplies

Set a special day for buying uniforms and supplies and give your child choices where possible – perhaps they can pick their new water bottle or school bag?

This will give them a sense of control and also increase their excitement. Once you have their uniform, let them try it on a few times to get used to it – this will help them become familiar with it and is good practice for getting dressed and undressed independently.

Blooming Futures Daycare staff in partnership with parents can help to make the transition to school a less daunting experience.