

**Everyone valued,  
everyone challenged,  
everyone achieving.**



**“Attendance, Attention and Achievement”**

## **TRANSITION GUIDE FOR PARENTS**

### **Welcome!**

Here at Essex Primary School, we have a happy, friendly team!

We aim to provide a warm and welcoming environment for children starting in our Nursery. We would like to emphasise the important role you play in your child’s education. In order to feel confident and secure, your child needs to see the relationship between home and school. Good communication between families and school helps to ensure a smooth transition and also enables the teacher to learn about each child from the adult who knows them best.

We look forward to working with you to build a strong partnership based on mutual understanding and respect.



Starting Nursery can be an exhausting business! Don’t be surprised if your children come home feeling tired and not wanting to talk about their day. Give them a meal, a bath, a cuddle and a story, before getting them off to bed early or to have an afternoon nap.

### **What can you do to help?**

10 things we would like you to teach your child before they start nursery

1. To remove their coats, gloves and hats and hang them up

2. To put shoes on and take them off
3. To hold a book the right way up and talk about the pictures
4. To recognise and look after their belongings
5. To use the toilet on their own
6. To wash and dry their hands
7. To use a knife and fork
8. To tidy up
9. To share and co-operate with other children
10. To enjoy the new experience of nursery!

Please don't worry if they can't do any of the above mentioned things as we will help and support your child to be able to do these things independently.

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

This section tries to share with you some practical information that will support your child in the transition between home and our Nursery.

However, as with all lists, it cannot be exhaustive! If you have any further queries **PLEASE do not hesitate to ask!!**

### **“I've been offered a place at Nursery – what happens next?”**

We try to ensure our transition arrangements suit you and your child's individual needs. Once you have accepted a place in our nursery, we will be in touch to arrange an individual and personalised programme to suit your needs. Please note that due to COVID-19 this may look different to what it may have looked like previously. Our initial transition discussions will take place over the phone, email and/or video conferencing - Whatever suits you as parents. Lots of information will be available on our website.

### **“What can I expect on the day my child starts?”**

All children are individuals and you know your child best!

#### **Day 1**

This is where the partnership with staff begins! Please let your key person know when you are ready to say goodbye, so that they can be ready to support your child if needed. Your child will be reassured as they know where you are, and, if there are any problems, staff can contact you

straight away, so avoiding unnecessary distress to your child. Staff will ask you to return within an hour on that first day

Day 2 onwards

What happens next is totally determined by your child

If they are happy to enter Nursery, say goodbye to you and engage in play activities, then staff will gradually, day by day, extend the length of time that you are away.

However, please be guided by your key person, who will be observing your child carefully during these first few, important, sessions. All staff are very experienced and are able to judge when the children begin to show signs of needing their parents/carers

We believe that time spent being sensitive to the needs of individual children at this stage, results in your child making the most of their Nursery experience!

Even if your child has attended another setting, please remember they need time to become familiar with a new building, new routine and new adults!

## **“What if my child doesn’t settle?”**

Almost certainly they will in time! Just a few tips for you to consider!

Don’t worry!!

Talk to your key person, other parents, family members – anyone who will reassure you – many of us have been there ourselves.

Don’t let your child know you are concerned.

Be consistent with your child – follow the routine that works for you BUT please....

COME BACK WHEN YOU SAY YOU WILL!

## **“What happens at the end of the session?”**

- Please remember that the sessions end at 11.45 am and 3.20pm, and children should be collected by these times.
- If someone other than yourself is picking your child up PLEASE, PLEASE let staff know beforehand.
- In order to keep your child safe, staff will never let your child go with someone they do not know – if staff are uncertain, your child will be kept safe and you will be contacted immediately.

## **“What does my child need to bring to Nursery?”**

Children should have a bag with a change of clothes.

## **“What does my child need to wear for Nursery?”**

Children should come to school dressed in their school uniform:

- Dark coloured shoes or trainers (black or blue) no sandals
- Dark blue trousers, **jogging bottoms** or skirt
- White shirt or blouse
- Dark blue jumpers, cardigan or sweatshirt with a school logo

Uniform can be purchased from Ian Howard.

If we need to change your child’s clothing at Nursery, please wash and return the items to us.

Children should wear knickers/pants at all times, and socks when wearing shoes.

**Please mark all items of clothing with your child’s name clearly.** We cannot accept responsibility for personal items that get lost or broken.

**For Health and Safety reasons, children are not allowed to wear jewellery. Small stud earrings are acceptable.**

## **“How will I be kept informed about my child’s progress?”**

We will always be available to talk informally with you about your child’s progress

BUT, in addition...

There will be an opportunity for you to have a private, in-depth conversation about your child with a member of staff.

## **“Will my child be able to go outside?”**

All children will have access to outdoor learning - every session. Staff recognize the importance of well-planned and well-resourced provision, both indoors and outside.

## **“What do I do if my child is poorly?”**

If your child has suffered from sickness or diarrhoea, please keep them at home for at least 48 hours.

Conjunctivitis & impetigo are particularly infectious and children must stay at home until completely free of the infection.

When outbreaks of head lice are reported to us, we will inform all parents. Please check your child’s hair regularly. If you find that your child has head lice please do keep them at home until you are sure the treatment has been effective.

## **“What do I do if we are going on holiday?”**

Inform your child’s class teacher and complete and return a Holiday Request Form

