**St Bede’s Catholic Primary School**

**Preparing for Nursery**

Starting nursery marks a big change in your child’s life, and it helps to prepare.

There are lots of ways in which you can prepare and support your child for their next steps into the world of Nursery.

* Read books together about children starting nursery.
* Point out any friends or cousins who have recently started school or nursery and talk

about the fun they are having.

* Talk about your child’s interest and the things they will enjoy there – for example:
* “There’ll be lots of sand to play with – you’ll love that, or “There will be story time”.
* Talk about the enjoyable activities they will be doing that build on things they already

do at home – painting, drawing, cutting and pasting and listening to stories, for

example.

**There are also practical ways you can help your child settle in quickly:**

* Practise putting on and taking off a coat, shoes and socks including doing up and

undoing the fastenings.

* Practise social skills, such as taking turns, following directions and making choices.
* Toilet training to enable your child to be independent and confident in their new

setting – practise using the toilet properly, flushing the chain, washing hands.

* Practise simple jobs independently that may be useful at Nursery, such as tidying

away toys.

* Help your child to recognise their names. Most children cannot read or write yet but

they may be able to recognise the first letter of their name or even the whole word.

* Help your child write their name; please remember to teach a capital first letter and

then lower case. Do not teach children all capital letters as this can be confusing.

* Practise using children’s scissors to snip, cut straight lines and curved lines
* Holding a pencil correctly to follow different lines, trace pictures and draw.
* Recognise colours and simple shapes.
* Asking and answering questions about what they see.
* Practise counting to ten.
* Practise singing familiar nursery rhymes and songs from memory.
* Looking at pictures in stories and talking about what is happening.

**Remember, all these activities should be fun!**

Home/School visits will also be arranged to help support and prepare your child prior to

starting Nursery.