**How to help your child get ready for school.**

We are really looking forward to meeting you and your child and to welcoming you in to our school family. Starting nursery is a very exciting time. Here are some skills that your child will be working on when they start at St Bede’s. Please encourage your child to practise these skills at home to help with the transition.

Thank-you for your support.

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| **Personal Skills**Encourage your child to:* Use the toilet independently.
* Wash and dry hands independently.
* Put on their own coat.
* Put on their own shoes and fasten velcro fastenings.
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| **Independence and Sharing**Support your child to:* Take turns when playing games and share toys.
* Join in games and activities with other people- members of your family.
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| **Eating and Drinking*** Support your child to use a knife, fork and spoon and to hold a cup correctly.
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| **Speaking and Listening**Encourage your child to:* Listen to stories, songs and rhymes and to join in with repeated words and phrases i.e. “Run run as fast as you can, you can’t catch me I am the gingerbread man.”
* When reading a story with your child, talk about the story. What does your child like about the story? How could the story end? How might the character be feeling in the story?
* Ask an adult for help when needed.
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| **Reading and Writing**Support your child to:* Begin to recognise their name when written down/ recognise the first letter of their name.
* Hold a pencil to make marks.
* Practise writing their name / practise giving meaning to their mark making.
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| **Number Skills**Support your child to:* Count small groups of objects.
* Practise counting to 5 and then 10 and recognising numbers to 1-3 and beyond.
* Sing number rhymes and songs.
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