

Ready for school...

I will be ready for school when...	How can you support me with being ready for school...
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• I can recognise my name when it is written down• I can look at books and turn the pages• I can join in with my favourite bit of a story• I can join in and sing nursery rhymes, number rhymes and action songs• I can count everyday objects• I can recognise some numbers, 0-10• I can name some shapes• I can use words to describe size and position	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Show me my name written down and help me to read it• Share a book with me every day and talk about the story, for example at bedtime• Encourage me to notice print in the environment and read it, for example shop signs, cereal packets, magazines, menus• Encourage me to join in with my favourite books, for example well known stories, "I'll huff and I'll puff and blow your house down" "whose been eating my porridge."• Sing lots of rhymes and songs with me, for example heads, shoulders, knees and toes, five little ducks, Humpty Dumpty, Jack and Jill, ten green bottles• Get me into the habit of counting everything, for example stairs up to bed, cars, grapes, ducks in the pond• Encourage me to point or touch as I say the number• Play counting games with me, for example dominoes, number snap and snakes and ladders• Play spot the number focus on the numerals 0-10 and challenge me to find them everywhere, for example on clocks, cars, front door, birthday cards and phones• Point out shapes to me, for example the plate is round and a circle, the bathroom tiles are square• Talk to me about where things are using words such as on, next to, over, under.• Talk to me about the size of objects using words such as big, small, large, smallest, largest, heavy, light, long, short, tall

Get Ready for School

Ready Families, Ready Settings, Ready Children



Top tips for helping your child to have a
successful start at school

Ready to learn...

I will be ready for school when...	How can you support me with being ready for school...
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I can sit still and listen for a short while • I can follow simple instructions • I can share and take turns • I can follow rules • I can separate happily from my parent or carer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play games with me, for example Simon says, board games, card games (snap, pairs, happy families) • Spend one-to-one time with me where I need to sit and listen, for example sharing a story, talking about your day • Give me simple instructions to follow, for example hold my hand to cross the road, go and clean your teeth • Give me experience of being left with other adults

Ready to be active...

I will be ready for school when...	How can you support me with being ready for school...
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I can move in different ways • I can hold a pencil to make marks and draw a simple picture • I can hold and use scissors to cut • I can use my hands and fingers with control • I can use a knife and food to eat 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take me to the park and encourage me to run, jump, climb and balance • Play ball games with me • Give me lots of opportunity to use pencils, pens, chunky crayons, paint, chalk to draw, mark make (writing) and colour • Encourage me to talk to you about my paintings and drawings and tell you what my marks mean • Help me to strengthen my finger muscles by giving me opportunities to play with playdough, lego, puzzles and help you to peg clothes (this will help me to write) • Teach me how to hold a pair of scissors and use them to cut paper and card • Teach me how to use a knife and fork and support me to practice this

Ready to be independent...

I will be ready for school when...	How can you support me with being ready for school...
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I can undress and dress myself • I can put on and take off my coat and turn the sleeves the right way round • I can go to the toilet myself • I can wash my hands and know when to wipe my nose 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Give me the time and encourage me to do things on my own for example getting dressed, putting on my coat, shoes, socks and tights • Give me a consistent morning and bedtime routine • Encourage me to go to the toilet, wipe myself and wash my hands independently

Ready to communicate...

I will be ready for school when...	How can you support me with being ready for school...
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I can speak to an adult and ask for help • I can talk about my ideas and feelings • I can talk in sentences • I can take turns to talk and listen • I can ask questions • I can say my age and first and last name • I can talk about my family • I can talk about lots of different things. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talk to me! • Give me lots of opportunities to talk, for example to talk about my day, my friends, my toys, my interests and my feelings, • Minimise distractions by turning off TV's and stereos and ignoring phones and computers – especially during meals, stories, baths and bedtimes • Listen to me when I am talking to you and respond in full sentences • When other people are talking encourage me to wait and say excuse me • Encourage me to talk to my friends and family about the things I know