

# Ecclesall Primary

## Guide to Starting School

### How can I prepare my child for starting school?

Starting school is a big step for you, as well as for your child, so it is a good idea to prepare yourself for the change, along with helping your child with the transition.

You will probably have mixed emotions on your child's first day. Try not to show your child if you are feeling upset, as this can unsettle them.

Your child may cry, but this often does not last long once you have gone –there are far too many exciting distractions. Remember that you can always phone school later to check how they are settling in.

### What skills are needed?

It is not expected that children are reading and writing. Give plenty of opportunities to enjoy mark making, such as painting and share books together.

Good personal skills are important, try and encourage your child with turn taking, sharing, asking for help and interacting with others.

Supporting your child to become more independent will help them to cope in the new school environment.

### Important skills include:

- Using the toilet independently.
- Turning on taps, washing and drying hands.
- Wiping their own nose.
- Dressing and undressing.
- Taking their coat on and off.
- Help them to recognise their name.

We hope you find this information useful, if you have any further questions please ask a member of the Foundation Stage team.

