



## Before the big day... make sure you...

- ☺ Buy your child a school book bag at the end of the Summer Term.
- ☺ Check if the school has a second hand uniform sale (before the end of the Summer Term).
- ☺ Buy your child's uniform after checking what the school policy says about where to buy it.
- ☺ Ensure everything is labelled with their name.
- ☺ Check out the start date for your child and know how many days your child may be attending half days before going full time.
- ☺ Check the start time on the first day.
- ☺ Check which school entrance to take your child to and the way into the school grounds.
- ☺ Share any concerns you might have about your child starting at the school or their settling in (either directly or through the Early Years Provider).
- ☺ Talk about school in a positive way during the school holidays. Look on the school website for a photo of the child's class teacher and use their name when talking about them.
- ☺ Visit the school for the Summer Fair or other informal open events being held by the school.
- ☺ Visit the website [www.foundationyears.org.uk](http://www.foundationyears.org.uk) to find out more about what your child will be learning at school.

If you have any questions please ask your child's Early Years Provider or the School your child will attend.

## Helping My Child to Have a Successful Start in Their Reception Class at School



When starting school

One thing is key

The school needs to be ready for ME!

To make this easy

Before I go

There are some things that I should know .....

This leaflet has been created by DCC in partnership with the Schools and Early Years Providers of Dorset

# What Parents/Carers can do to help their child.....

## Getting on with others

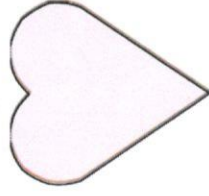
- Talk to your child about friendships and feelings.
- When reading stories talk to them about the feelings of the characters.
- Have friends over to play or take them to groups with other children.

## Looking after myself

- Give them time to try and get dressed by themselves.
- Support them to be toilet trained by the start of school.
- Help them to learn how to use a knife and fork.
- Talk to them about healthy choices with food and drink.

## Being active

- Make sure they get a chance to run, skip, dance and jump and be active every day.
- Try to enable them to have messy play as often as possible; e.g. playdough, painting, etc.



## Listening and attention

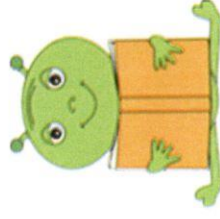
- Read stories with your child daily.
- Give them simple instructions to follow.
- Play board games with them or Snap.

## Speaking clearly

- Switch off your TV / Radio / Phone / Computer and have a conversation.
- Sing Nursery rhymes every day.
- Use interesting words with your child.

## Love to learn

- Find out what your child is interested in and show interest yourself.
- Go outside and explore their world - go at their pace - do not rush.
- Have fun and laugh.



*Ravenous*

