



# School Readiness

At Horsted Keynes preschool we recommend that children work on the following skills at home in order to prepare them for transition to primary school:

<b>I will be ready for school when....</b>	<b>How can you support me to do this?</b>
<b>I can put on my own coat and fasten it.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hold my hood and encourage me to put my arms in sleeves.</li> <li>• Put the hood on my head so I can do the rest.</li> <li>• Show me where to position my hands to use my zip.</li> </ul>
<b>I can go to the toilet by myself and wash my hands afterwards.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Let's play a game where we teach a favourite toy how to use the toilet.</li> <li>• Let me choose my own underwear in the shops.</li> <li>• Give me plenty of praise when I go to the toilet and wipe all by myself.</li> <li>• Let me watch you wash your hands and tell you what to do next.</li> </ul>
<b>I can confidently say goodbye when I am left with an adult that I know will look after me.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leave me with familiar adults for short periods of time.</li> <li>• Let me talk to your friends whilst you are there.</li> <li>• Take me to visit my new teacher and meet all the adults working in my new class.</li> </ul>
<b>I have made good friends and can happily talk to other children and adults.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Take me to Toddler groups.</li> <li>• Let me play with other children in the park and on outings.</li> <li>• Let me talk to other adults when you are there.</li> </ul>
<b>I can share and take turns in a group.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Play games with me where I must wait until it's my go.</li> <li>• Make sure I take turns at the park and on outings.</li> <li>• Talk to me about why I need to share my toys.</li> </ul>
<b>I can sit and listen for a short while.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read stories to me and look at books.</li> <li>• Let's listen to songs together and sing.</li> <li>• Play hide and seek games where I listen to your instructions.</li> </ul>
<b>I can answer a simple question about a story.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• When we are sharing a story ask me about how it might end.</li> <li>• Ask me about the different pictures I can see on each page.</li> </ul>
<b>I can tidy up after myself and look after my things.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Show me where things are kept so I know where to put them back.</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Play tidy up games with me.</li> <li>• Let's tidy up and clean together.</li> </ul>
<b>I am happy to speak to others about my wants, needs and feelings.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read books like Owl Babies and Peace at Last so we can talk about how the different characters are feeling.</li> <li>• Ask me how I am feeling.</li> <li>• Tell me how you are feeling.</li> </ul>
<b>I can follow simple instructions.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Play games with me like find the teddy where I have to follow your instructions.</li> <li>• Teach me how to make a sandwich saying first get the bread etc. ...</li> <li>• Let's follow some instructions to bake a cake.</li> </ul>
<b>I can re-tell a past event (something that has happened to me).</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask me if I remember certain dates/experiences.</li> <li>• Show me photographs and let me talk about what I remember.</li> <li>• Let's make a scrap book after we go on day trips so I can look back and remember.</li> </ul>
<b>I can feed myself and enjoy a range of healthy foods.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teach me to use a knife, fork, and spoon and make sure I don't just eat with my hands.</li> <li>• Provide a variety of meals so I can experience a range of foods.</li> <li>• Let me help you prepare meals so I can talk about foods, and you can teach me new things.</li> </ul>
<b>I can dress and undress myself as well as putting on and taking off my shoes.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Show me my new school uniform and let me practice buttons and zips.</li> <li>• Show me how to take off my clothes and put them in a pile on the chair ready for PE lessons.</li> <li>• Buy me some Velcro fastening shoes that I can put on and take off myself.</li> </ul>
<b>I can follow rules at home and preschool and I will be able to do this at school.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make sure I know what I am allowed to do and not allowed to do.</li> <li>• Tell me boundaries and make sure I keep to them.</li> <li>• Let's make some house rules together.</li> </ul>
<b>I enjoy listening to stories and singing rhymes.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read me a bedtime story before bed.</li> <li>• Sing songs with me and rhymes that I can make actions to like 'head, shoulders, knees and toes' and 'wind the bobbin up' etc.</li> <li>• Make up stories whilst we are walking so I can listen to them and tell you one too.</li> </ul>



As well as the above skills, at preschool we will be specifically focusing on the following skills:

- Building attention span
- Turn taking & sharing
- Developing spoken language and vocabulary
- Forming and building friendships
- Participating in all aspects of the preschool day (i.e. singing, dancing, group games and activities)
- Listening and following directions from adults
- Following the daily routine
- Physical development
- Creative skills
- Joining in discussions about the world around us
- Letter and pre-reading skills (such as recognising letter sounds)
- Number, pre-mathematics & reasoning skills (such as recognising numbers, shapes, one more than/less than, counting in sequence)

Am I ready for school? - Tips for parents

[am-i-ready-for-school.pdf](http://am-i-ready-for-school.pdf) ([primarysite-prod-sorted.s3.amazonaws.com](http://primarysite-prod-sorted.s3.amazonaws.com))