

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

- ☺ At the end of the Summer Term bought your child a school book bag
- ☺ Bought your child's uniform and checked what the School policy says about where to buy.
- ☺ Make sure everything is labelled with their name
- ☺ Checked if the school has a second hand uniform sale (before the end of the Summer term)
- ☺ Checked out the start dates for your child and know how many days your child may be half day before going full time
- ☺ Checked the start time on that first day
- ☺ Checked which school entrance to take your child to and the way into the school grounds
- ☺ Shared any concerns you may have about your child settling or starting with the school (either directly or through the pre-school)
- ☺ During the school holidays talk about school in a positive way. Look on the school website for a photo of the child's class teacher and use their name when talking about them
- ☺ Visited the school for the Summer Fair or other informal open events that are held by the school.
- ☺ Visited 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 pre schools of Dorset

# What parents 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*



## ***Listening and attention***

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



## ***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*



## ***Speaking clearly***

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



## ***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 eg play-dough, painting etc*



## ***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*

