Helping your child get ready for school

Help them recognise their name
- Write their name on everything they do
- Point out their name on things
- Help them find the letters of their name in other words
- Put a copy of their name on the fridge
- Show them where their name is on all of their school clothing

Read aloud with your child
- Share picture story books, talk about the pictures and the story
- Encourage your child to make up a story to match the pictures
- Read stories or retell stories that you know
- Visit your local library for book borrowing and story time

Go for walk around your area
- Talk about the changes in the trees, flowers, leaves
- Look for traffic signs and crossings, show them how to use a crossing, in particular the school crossing
- Walk or drive to the school, point out the gate you will use
- Come by the school when the children are out at play so that your child sees the other children at play 11.00 – 11.30 & 1.30 -2.30

Help them to become a good listener
- Ask them to follow instructions
- Do activities where they have to sit still for a short period of time
- Encourage them to play with other children
- Take them to activities such as story time at the library

Help them to be independent
- Teach them to put on their shoes, socks and jumper
- Let them practise opening the lunch box, unwrapping their lunch, opening drinks. Talk about snack and lunch – show them the food for each session
- Encourage them to ask for help if they need it
- Encourage them to go to the toilet and wash their hands by them self

Play with your child
- Spend time drawing, cutting, doing craft together
- Play games where you have to take turns
- Play number and letter games (e.g. I spy, count the pegs, sort the colours/shapes)
- Join in your child’s play