Getting Ready for Reception!

Corby Primary Academy

Starting school is a big and exciting milestone — for children and for parents. Every child develops at their own pace, and we're here to support you every step of the way. These simple ideas can help your child feel happy, confident, and ready for their first days in Reception.

Building Independence

Little moments of independence help children feel proud and capable. You can support this by encouraging your child to:





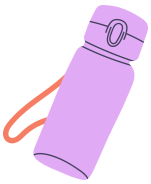
- Use the toilet on their own and wash their hands
- Put on their own coat, shoes, and jumper
- Feed themselves using cutlery
- Have a go at small tasks — children love feeling "grown-up"

We don't expect perfection. Just lots of practice and praise.

Recognising their name

It really helps if your child can spot their name on their belongings.





- Show them their name on their coat, book bag, peg, and water bottle
- Play simple name-recognition games
- Let them trace or find their name in fun ways

This builds confidence and helps them feel secure in their new environment.

Talking, Sharing & Making Friends

Reception is full of new friendships and big feelings. You can help your child by:



- Practising taking turns and sharing
- Talking about feelings — happy, sad, worried, excited
- Encouraging them to follow simple instructions
- Modelling calm conversations and problem-solving

These skills help children settle socially and feel understood.

Healthy Routines

A predictable routine helps children feel safe and ready to learn.



- Keep to early, consistent bedtimes
- Reduce screen time, especially before bed
- Encourage healthy eating and drinking water
- Help your child practise organising their own things



These small habits make mornings smoother and help children feel ready for the day.

Come and Talk to Us

Starting school is a big step, and it's completely normal to have questions, worries, or moments of uncertainty. We want you to know that you're never alone in this.
We are always here to listen, support, and help in any way we can.



- If something is on your mind
- If your child is worried about something
- If you've noticed a change at home
- Or if you just want to check something with us

Please come and speak to us. You'll find us at the classroom door at the start and end of each day, and we're always happy to chat.
Working together helps your child feel safe, understood, and ready to enjoy their Reception journey.

Remember...

Every child is unique. Every family is different. There is no perfect way to prepare — just loving support, gentle practice, and lots of encouragement.
We can't wait to welcome your child into Reception and begin this exciting journey together.