

Paston Ridings Primary School

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Primary School

*Top Tips for
getting ready to
start school!*

What really helps us most is if your child is ready for learning, and the most important things you can teach your child are **INDEPENDENCE** and **RESPONSIBILITY**. The social skills your child needs to start school are at this stage more important than whether he/she can write their name or count to one hundred!



Teaching your child to be independent is hard on both of you - it will almost always take longer if you get them to do things themselves. Nevertheless, letting them have a go is the only way to greater independence, so plan to allow extra time if this is required. Please be patient; encourage confidence and don't criticise if things aren't exactly to your liking - praise your child's efforts at every opportunity.

What can you do to prepare them?

- Children should be able to put on and take off their coats and hang them up; get undressed and changed for PE. Help them to practise fastening new garments at home.



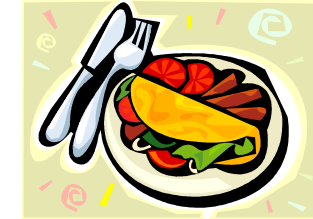
- Children must be able to take themselves to the toilet, flush properly and wash their hands.



- Teach your child to use a handkerchief or tissue - tissues are always available in the classroom.



- At lunchtime, children will be expected to use a knife and fork and sit sensibly whilst eating. You can help by encouraging good table manners at home.



- Coming to school means learning to live in a crowd and to wait for attention. Try to ensure your child knows how to take turns and how to share toys.



- In school we encourage the children to be responsible from the start, e.g. we expect them to be able to hand in letters and dinner money (in an envelope) to the teacher themselves rather than you delivering them to the office.