

MANAGING THE TRANSITION TOGETHER

Your child is probably filled with pride to be starting school soon. But having some reservations about starting school is also normal. Your child is, after all, facing big challenges.

HAVE FAITH

Your child will overcome these challenges and, in doing so, will grow and develop. As a parent, you can help them in this – by setting a good example and showing positivity, curiosity and optimism.

Good preparation can help your child as they start school. They've already learned many things at home or in nursery. They will learn to read, write and do arithmetic at school.

SUPPORT YOUR CHILD

There are plenty of everyday opportunities to promote your child's development through play. This is an exciting time. With patience and attentiveness, you will help them become independent and confident about starting school.

You can support your child in the following areas:

- Language and writing
- Mathematics
- Movement and concentration
- Relating to others
- Independence

Your child is due to start school this year. As a parent, you can actively help make the transition to school that little bit easier. This publication has examples to show you how.

A transition meeting at your child's nursery can provide further ideas and suggestions.



Information on starting school 

Senatsverwaltung
für Bildung, Jugend
und Familie

BERLIN



Bernhard-Weiß-Straße 6
10178 Berlin
Telephone +49 30 90227-5050
www.berlin.de/sen/bjt/en
post@senbjf.berlin.de

Design: SenBJF, Department ZS I
Photos: Getty Images (skynesher)
iStock (Image Source, HappyKids,
IPGutenbergUKLtd, Userba011d64_201)
Updated: 01/2024

READY FOR SCHOOL

Suggestions for getting ready for primary school



Englisch

Senatsverwaltung
für Bildung, Jugend
und Familie

BERLIN



READY FOR SCHOOL



Language and writing

Your child is ready if they ...

- show an interest in books and stories,
- recount a story they have heard,
- talk about their own experiences and ideas,
- sing songs or recite short poems and rhymes,
- can speak in turn,
- listen and understand the thoughts of others,
- know that letters and numbers mean something,
- can write their own (first) name or
- remember and use words and phrases.

Relating to others

Your child is ready if they ...

- interact with other children in the group,
- contribute their own ideas and suggestions to the group,
- express and accept criticism,
- negotiate conflict and reach a compromise,
- understand and allow for the fact that other people think and feel differently,
- negotiate, accept and follow rules or
- accept not always winning in a game.

Mathematics

Your child is ready if they ...

- explore and put numbers in order and talk about what they mean,
- count objects or sort or describe them by shape or size,
- play dice,
- make and draw shapes and patterns from different materials,
- build constructions using bricks and blocks,
- describe what's around them, e.g. above, below, in front, behind,
- count out ingredients, such as eggs, when baking and cooking or
- play with water and observe the water level in a container or in the bath.

Independence

Your child is ready if they ...

- develop confidence in their own strengths,
- hold and explain their own opinion,
- are curious and open to experience and knowledge,
- ask when they don't understand something,
- understand and actively help shape the daily routine,
- know their name, age and address or
- find their way in familiar places.

Movement and concentration

Your child is ready if they ...

- know their physical capabilities and limits,
- accept the limits of others,
- throw and catch a ball,
- climb the stairs properly,
- can walk backwards, sideways or on their tiptoes,
- climb, balance and sway,
- hop on one foot,
- open and close different fasteners,
- play a game of their choice to the end following the rules or
- know how to use a pencil, paintbrush, scissors and glue.

**THEN THEY'RE
READY!**