



Cranborne CE First School and Nursery

Love, Learn, Fly Do Everything in Love 1 Corinthians 16:14

Helping your child to get the best possible start at Cranborne CE First School and Nursery



What do I need to do before the big day?

- Visit the school website: www.cranbornefirst.dsaf.org.uk
- Talk with your child about school in a positive way during the school holidays, using Miss Hudson's name when talking about school.
- Buy your child's uniform having checked our School Uniform Policy on the website (where to buy, the school colours and expectations).
- Ensure your child can take their shoes on and off. i.e. no laces
- Label everything (even socks and shoes!).
- Check with the school office if a second-hand uniform sale is scheduled before the end of the summer term.
- Only 1 keyring for book bags and blue & white hair accessories only.
- Check the start dates for your child.
- Check the start time on the first day.
- Confirm which school entrance to take your child to and the way into the school grounds.
- Share any concerns you may have about your child settling or starting school (either directly or through the pre-school/nursery).
- Provide us with your correct contact details, including an email address so that you can start receiving our fortnightly newsletter.
- Visit the website www.foundationyears.org.uk to find out more about what your child will be learning at school.

If you have any other questions, please ask us.

How I Can Help My Child to...

Make Friends:

- Talk to your child about friendships and feelings
- When reading stories talk to them about how the characters might be feeling
- Have friends over to play or take them to groups with other children



Look After Themselves:

- Give them time to try and get dressed by themselves
- Ensure they are toilet-trained by the start of school
- Help them to learn how to use a knife and fork
- Offer them healthy choices of food and drink and talk about them



Be Active:

- Make sure they get a chance to run, skip, jump and dance and be active every day
- Try to enable them to have messy play as often as possible, e.g. playdough, painting, etc.

Listen and Pay Attention:

- Read stories with your child every day
- Give them simple instructions to follow (with a number of steps)
- Play board or card games with them (e.g. snap)
- Encourage a willingness to wait and take turns



Develop Hand Control:

- Encourage your child to participate in activities such as threading, tracing and drawing

Speak Clearly:

- Switch off your television/radio/phone/computer and have a conversation with them
- Sing nursery rhymes together every day
- Use interesting words with your child, e.g. words to talk about water, to describe the weather, wound words etc

Love to Learn:

- Find out what your child is interested in and show an interest yourself
- Go outside and explore the world – go at their pace and do not rush
- Encourage your child's artistic flair by drawing people, pets or favourite things
- Practise holding pencils, crayons correctly and begin to 'write' as well as draw
- Listen for rhyme in stories and books

