



**Hope
Hamilton**
CE Primary School

A guide to starting your new school

2026 New Starters

This tracker helps you and your child prepare for school.

The Road To School



Speaking & literacy

- I like to read stories & look at picture books
- I am able to talk about myself, my needs & feelings
- I am practising recognising my name when it's written down

Listening & understanding

- I am able to sit still and listen for a short while
- I can follow instructions
- I understand the need to follow rules

Writing skills

- I like tracing patterns & colouring in
- I enjoy making marks
- I am practising holding a pencil

Sharing & turn taking

- I can share toys & take turns
- I like playing games with others
- I like interacting with other children

Everyone starts school with different abilities - your teacher will help you progress at your own level.

Interest in the world & new activities

- I enjoy learning about the world around me
- I am interested in exploring new activities or environments
- I like asking questions

Counting skills

- I enjoy practising counting objects
- I like saying number rhymes & playing counting games when they are written down
- I can recognise some numbers when they are written down

Going to the toilet

- I can go to the toilet on my own, wipe myself properly & flush
- I can wash and dry my hands without any help

Routines

- I have practised putting on my uniform & getting ready to leave on time
- I have a good bedtime routine so I'm not feeling tired for school
- I'm learning to eat at the times I will on school days

What are you looking forward to the most? Is there anything you're unsure of?

Getting dressed & undressed on my own

- I can button & unbutton my shirt & use a zip
- I can put my own shoes & socks on
- I can change into my PE kit & put my coat on

Self-care

- I know when to wash my hands
- I can wipe my nose
- I can ask for help if I don't feel well

Eating

- I can use a knife & fork
- I can open my packed lunch on my own
- I am confident at opening wrappers & packaging

School bus



Independence

- I am happy to be away from my mummy, daddy or my main carer after my things
- I am happy to tidy my belongings & look after starting school
- I am feeling confident about starting school



www.nurseryresources.org

Remember - learning is not a competition; children learn at different rates. For more ideas to help prepare your child for school, talk to your childcare practitioner.

Independence

Foundation Stage is a time when we look to increase children's self-confidence and independence. When you do allow your child to grow in independence, their confidence and learning will increase.

Here are some tips on what to practice at home and school.



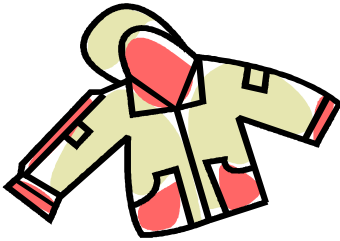
Know when they need the toilet, flush and wipe themselves, then wash their own hands.



Put on and take off their own school shoes.
No laces please unless your child can tie these.



Read their name.



Put on and take off their own coat including doing it up.



To dress and undress independently and pull-out sleeves when it is inside out.
out.



Walk independently as much as possible without being carried or going in a pushchair.



Feed themselves using a knife, fork and spoon. Open packets in their lunchboxes and eat whole fruit, not cut up.



Try something more than once before asking for help.

To use words to ask for help and explain what is wrong/ what hurts instead



Tidy away toys.



Hope Hamilton Uniform List

- School logo navy sweatshirt or cardigan or plain navy jumper, fleece or cardigan with school badge sewn on
- White polo t shirt (*with a collar*)
- Grey or black trousers, shorts, skirt or pinafore (*not leggings or jogging bottoms*)
- Grey, black or white tights or socks (*no leggings*)
- In summer, **navy** blue gingham dresses of any style may be worn - any shorts underneath should be plain and a neutral colour e.g. black, white, navy
- Navy/black/white/neutral coloured, plain, small hair accessories
- Footwear:
 - Plain, black school shoes NO LACES please unless your child can tie these.
 - Flat, plain, black boots with no logos or decorations
 - Plain, black trainers with no logos or writing
 - Plain sandals (not Crocs style, jelly shoes or flip flops) for summer in white, black, navy or other neutral tone e.g. beige, grey - worn with socks underneath to protect toes
- School book bag - not own bags or rucksacks as these take up too much room

NO JEWELLERY, NAIL VARNISH OR MAKE-UP to be worn at school for health and safety reasons.



Buy your uniform/ bookbag from the school office or any high street shop. Uniform will also be available to purchase during the stay and play sessions.

PE Kit for Foundation 2 children [4-5-yearolds]

- White plain t-shirt
- Navy/black plain shorts (*indoor P.E.*)
- Black plain plimsols
- Drawstring bag for P.E kit (your own or buy from the office)

Compulsory religious jewellery and ear studs must be removed for P.E. lessons.

All kit must be put **inside a drawstring bag** with your **child's name written on the outside** of the bag. P.E kit will be left in school. We will send it home to wash over the holidays.

WRITE YOUR CHILD'S NAME ON EVERY ITEM OF CLOTHING AND P.E BAG



Medical Information



- Provide us up to date medical information including emergency contact numbers.
- Only medicines prescribed by a health care professional can be given in school. Medication from any other source, e.g. over the counter medicines will not be administered by staff.
- If your child has long term medical needs e.g. diabetes, epilepsy then an individual healthcare plan will be agreed with the school.
- Children with asthma will keep the inhalers in their classroom. Please make sure these are kept up to date.
- For children needing to have epi-pens in school these are kept in the school office but are readily available.
- All medication brought in to school needs to be recorded on a medicine form which must be completed at the school office. All medication must be labelled with the child's name, date of issue and dosage instructions. Please note we cannot under any circumstances accept packs that do not contain the full amount of prescribed medication.



First Aid



- We have trained staff who hold First Aid qualifications.
- All accidents are recorded online on our medical platform and parents are notified through email for to any first aid given at school.
- For serious accidents we will always contact the parents and emergency services.

Milk



- Milk is provided by cool milk for free for all under 5s, parents will **need to pay for milk after their child turns 5**. Contact can be made through their website, www.coolmilk.com

Breakfast Club



- Breakfast club runs every day from 8.00am for a happy, relaxed and welcoming start to the day.
- Children have the chance to eat a healthy breakfast and have a glass of juice/milk or water. The children have a large variety of activities, games and toys to play with or they can draw or sit and chat with their friends.
- Breakfast club payments need to be made via our on-line payment system log in details will be provided when children start. The school is completely cashless, and **everything** must be paid for online

Sharing information

- We use google classroom to inform you of any events, information about the school e.g. Non uniform days, trips and special activities that have taken place at school.
- We also will post photos of the children and details about online learning apps.
- It is **important** that you access this and log in details will be provided at your 1:1 meeting.



School Meals

- School meals are freshly prepared in the school kitchen every day and have a menu which operates on a 3-week cycle. Menus are on our website.
- We have a healthy eating policy within the school with meat and vegetarian dishes available to the children.
- School meals are paid for **Foundation Stage 1** children and **free of charge** for **Foundation 2 children**.
- Cost of a school dinner is **£3.20**
- All paid for meals **MUST** be paid a week in advance on every Friday morning for the following week. You also have the option to pay half termly.
- All school dinners must be ordered before 8.30am each day via our Arbor system or can be ordered in advance for a whole term.

Packed Lunch

Packed lunches from home should be nutritious and healthy. Please **do not** include the items listed below:

- Drink cans or glass bottles
- Fizzy drinks
- Chocolates [biscuits, drinks, spreads or bars]
- Sweets
- NUTS or anything containing nuts
- Crisps with over 5g of fat
- Fruit winders



Lunchbox Suggestions

Sandwiches

- Wraps
- Pittas
- Baguettes
- Crackers
- Rice or corn cakes
- Bread sticks
- Bagels

Fillings and toppings can include; cheese, ham, chicken, tuna, salad or cream cheese.

Sweet snacks

- Tinned fruit
- Fruit salads
- Berries
- Cherries
- Fruit shapes and winders
- Dried fruits
- Yoghurts (not incl chocolate)
- Meringues
- Rice pudding pots
- Low fat custard pots
- Cereal bars (No nuts)
- Homemade flapjacks
- Homemade cakes
- Plain biscuits e.g. rich teas,
- digestives and malted

Savouries

- Quiches
- Cheese scones
- Boiled eggs
- Samosas
- Bhaja
- Chapattis
- Cheese e.g. Babybel
- Vegetable sticks
- Dips e.g. hummus
- Pasta salads
- Potato salads
- Cous cous
- Noodles
- Rice
- Falafel
- Soup

We cannot heat food up but you can bring in hot food in a flask.



Attendance

- The school doors will open at **8.40am** and registration time begins at **8.50am**.
- Doors will be closed at **8.50am** and you will need to bring your child to the office.
- Your child will be marked as attending school late.
- If your child is ill a phone call needs to be made to the office before 8.50am

Why is sending your child into school everyday important?

- **The more children miss school, the less they learn.**
- **The poorer their results, the less they want to stay in school.**
- **Regular attendance encourages good personal and social skills.**

Attendance Ladder



Attendance should be as close to 100% as possible, we see class attendance as a concern when it falls to **below 95%**.

For each child with attendance **below 95%** we:

- Send a letter to let parents know attendance has fallen.
- Involve the Education Welfare Officer who will ring parents or call round to make a 'Safe and Well Check'.
- Invite parents in for a meeting with Mrs Brooks.

Why is being in school, on time important?

- If children are late to school on a regular basis, they miss the beginning of the lesson where important learning takes place.
- Being late to school is very unsettling for children and their friends, whose lesson is also disrupted by children arriving late.

If children are late more than twice, a letter is sent home to parents to make them aware of the issue. If punctuality does not improve, the Education Welfare Officer becomes involved. If you are struggling to bring your child into school on time, please speak the office we will be happy to help.

FINES

If a child is taken out of school for an unauthorised holiday or trip for 4 or more school days, the parents may be fined.

The fine for each child is:

£80 per parent, per child, per holiday.

This means that a two-parent family with two children taking a week's holiday would have to pay a fine of £320.



Safeguarding

We ensure children learn in a safe, caring and enriching environment. Children are taught how to keep themselves safe, online and offline, to develop positive and healthy relationships, and how to avoid situations where they might be at risk, including by being exploited.

More detail about our safeguarding, safeguarding leads and policies can be found on our website.

