

# ST FRANCIS PRIMARY SCHOOL



We show children where  
to look but we don't tell  
them what to see.

## CONTACT US

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## HELPING GETTING YOUR CHILD RECEPTION READY

We want you and your child to feel happy and confident when you join our school.

There are a few skills to concentrate on which will help your child settle in. Read through this leaflet with your child and practice anything they feel unsure about

### Recognising their own name

Please don't worry if your child doesn't know the alphabet when they start school. We will teach them how to recognise numbers and letters. However, it will help your child if they are able to recognise their own name. For example when they see it written on a coat peg, or on items of clothing and belongings. Help them practice before they come to school by showing them what their name looks like. **Please remember to clearly name all your child's clothing and belongings.**



### Using cutlery

At mealtimes they will be using cutlery to eat their food. Adults will always be available to help children if they need it, but it will help your child to feel more confident at mealtimes if they can use a knife and fork independently. Help your child practice using cutlery correctly at home and encourage good manners, especially emphasising to them when to use 'please' and 'thank you'.



### Using tissues to wipe their nose and blow their nose

Children often have frequent colds in their early school years. Please show them how to wipe and blow their noses and tell them it's important to throw the tissue in the bin afterwards. By following these simple steps, we can all help stop the spread of germs.



### Going to the toilet independently

Children in Reception usually go to the toilet independently, although an adult is always available if they need help. Our children need to be able to clean themselves and flush when they have finished. They also need to wash and dry their own hands. Our toilets are very easy for small children to use, as they are designed with them in mind. Although we expect them to use the toilet independently, we understand that sometimes they might have 'accidents' so please bring one spare set of labelled clothing for them to keep in class.

### Getting dressed and undressed independently

Your child will be changing their clothes and shoes during the school day to go outside to play or to do activities, such as P.E. To help your child feel more confident doing this, make sure their clothes and shoes are easy for them to take off and put on. So think about clothes with fastening or big buttons, skirts with elasticated waists and shoes with velcro rather than laces.