



Help your child become confident to start at Coppice Academy



Starting school is a big change in a young child's life. We have written this guide to offer some useful tips to make it all go smoothly.

If you have any worries about your child starting school, please let us know. We are here to help.



Your child will need to be able to wash and dry their hands. Please practise this at home with them, so they can manage on their own once they start school.

Mohsin is washing his hands without help.



Teach your child to recognise their own coat.

Your child will also need to change their clothes without help. This is much easier for them if clothes and shoes have easy fastenings with elasticated waists and Velcro fastenings on shoes instead of laces. Help them learn with practice sessions at home.

Anniyah can find her coat and put it on without help.



Your child will be drinking water from a cup or milk from a carton using a straw. Please help them to practise this at home.

Anniyah can independently drink from a carton using a straw.



At snack and meal times children will sometimes be using a knife, fork or spoon to eat their food. We also encourage good manners.

Help your child practise using a knife, fork and spoon correctly at home and encourage good manners.

Anniyah, Andrei and Mohsin love their snacks at school and can use a knife, fork or spoon when they need to.

Children often have colds. Please show them how to wipe and blow their nose. Teach them to use a tissue whenever they have a runny nose and to throw the used tissue in the bin.

Anniyah is very good at blowing her nose and remembers to put the tissue in the bin afterwards.



It is vital that we can understand your child's needs. Please teach them to use words rather than pointing when they need something. This could relate to:

- asking for a drink
- going to the toilet
- needing help with coats or shoes
- wanting to do an activity etc



When they point at something they want at home, say the words to them and encourage them to say them back to you. Practise this often and they will soon be using words rather than pointing.

Andrei asks to go and play. His teacher is so pleased that he has learned to ask without pointing.



Teach your child how to use the toilet and to clean themselves afterwards. Explain they need to flush after use. Encourage them to wash their hands thoroughly with soap and water before drying them. Our toilets are very easy for small children to use.

Mohsin uses the toilet and flushes it by himself. He then washes his hands with soap and water before he dries them.

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