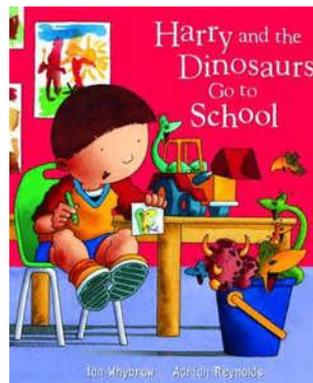


Harry and the Dinosaurs go to School

Starting school is a big transition for both you and your child. However, for someone little with no pre-set ideas or knowledge about what 'school' is this could also be a bewildering concept for your child.

You can help your child to be excited, enthusiastic, curious and confident about starting school by reading books about starting school with them. Children have lots of transitions in their lives. Handling this transition to school sensitively will help your child to build resilience and to be ready to take on all that school has to offer.

Reading books together about starting school will allow your child the chance to start to form a picture about what school might be like and to ask you questions. Building your child's confidence and resilience in this way will help them to explore, access the activities on offer in school and find solutions. These are all the basic skills needed to learn.



Read the story with your child. Sometimes children will need a story reading more than once before they remember it all.

Activity 1:

Ask your child what their favourite part of the story was.

Ask them why they thought that Harry was sad or why the 'digger boy' was quiet. If they are not sure than you can make suggestions to start the conversation/idea sharing process.

Allow time for your child to share any feelings that they have about starting school – are they excited or worried?

Activity 2:

Talk to your child about how Harry and his Mum travelled to school.

Ask your child about how they think you will travel to school.

Plan a good time to practise your school journey with your child. Walk past the school and talk about the building (etc) with your child.

Activity 3:

Talk to your child about Harry being allowed to take his dinosaurs to school.

As part of the Starting School Together pilot project your child will be given a Jofli Bear. The idea is that you and your child take photos, write/draw about what you do over the summer with Jofli in the logbook/diary that comes with the bear. Jofli will then go with your child for their first days in school as a familiar item from home. Jofli will also be a link for your child's key person in school to talk to your child about their summer so that they can start to form their key person relationship.



Check with your school teacher on their policy on bringing toys and comforters into school