



## School Readiness - Am I ready for school learning?

Children need a “well rounded” readiness to cope happily and successfully with all aspects of school life. Children who have a happy and successful first year of school develop an important foundation for future learning and a positive school experience.

*“The Prep year is when children learn to see themselves as being able to achieve. Whether they do or don’t matters. Children who are performing well at the end of their first year tend to maintain that.”*

Dr. Christine Ure, Associate Dean, University of Melbourne’s Faculty of Education.

Research and experience indicates that children starting school should generally display the following competencies:

<p><b><u>Social</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Play cooperatively with other children.</li> <li>• Cooperate with adults other than family.</li> <li>• Initiate conversations with others.</li> <li>• Take turns.</li> <li>• Share.</li> <li>• Use <i>Please, Thank you, and Excuse Me</i> appropriately.</li> <li>• Display age-appropriate behaviours.</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Emotional</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Separate easily from parents.</li> <li>• Express own needs verbally.</li> <li>• Pay attention in a group situation.</li> <li>• Concentrate on a task (5 minutes).</li> <li>• Persevere with a task that they find difficult.</li> <li>• Have confidence in their own ability.</li> <li>• Accept rules.</li> <li>• Display age-appropriate behaviours.</li> </ul>
<p><b><u>Physical</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Go without sleep during the day.</li> <li>• Use the toilet unaided.</li> <li>• Wash and dry hands unaided.</li> <li>• Clean/blow nose unaided.</li> <li>• Take own clothing on/off (including shoes)</li> <li>• Manage own lunch box items and drink.</li> <li>• Pack own bag/belongings.</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Fine Motor</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Draw a recognisable person or object.</li> <li>• Cut with scissors.</li> <li>• Copy recognizable shapes.</li> <li>• Attempt own name</li> <li>• Hold scissors and pencils correctly.</li> <li>• Colour in pictures.</li> </ul>
<p><b><u>Academic</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recognize own name.</li> <li>• Attempt to write own name.</li> <li>• Enjoy listening to stories.</li> <li>• Identify basic colours.</li> <li>• Show an interest in print, e.g. names and signs.</li> <li>• Recite familiar rhymes and jingles, including the alphabet.</li> <li>• Recognize some numerals.</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Resilience</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Confident</li> <li>• Persistent</li> <li>• Organized</li> <li>• Getting along</li> <li>• Bounce Back</li> </ul>

