

# Off to a great start – preparing your child for school

with Emily Jefford, Deputy Head, Head of Pre-Prep at St Catherine's Prep School, and Kate Walford, Head Teacher at Hambledon Nursery School



St Catherine's Prep School, Bramley



# Being ready for school

Unicef's Early Childhood conceptual framework:

*“A good start in life, in a nurturing and safe environment that enables children to survive and be physically healthy, mentally alert, emotionally secure, socially competent and able to learn”*



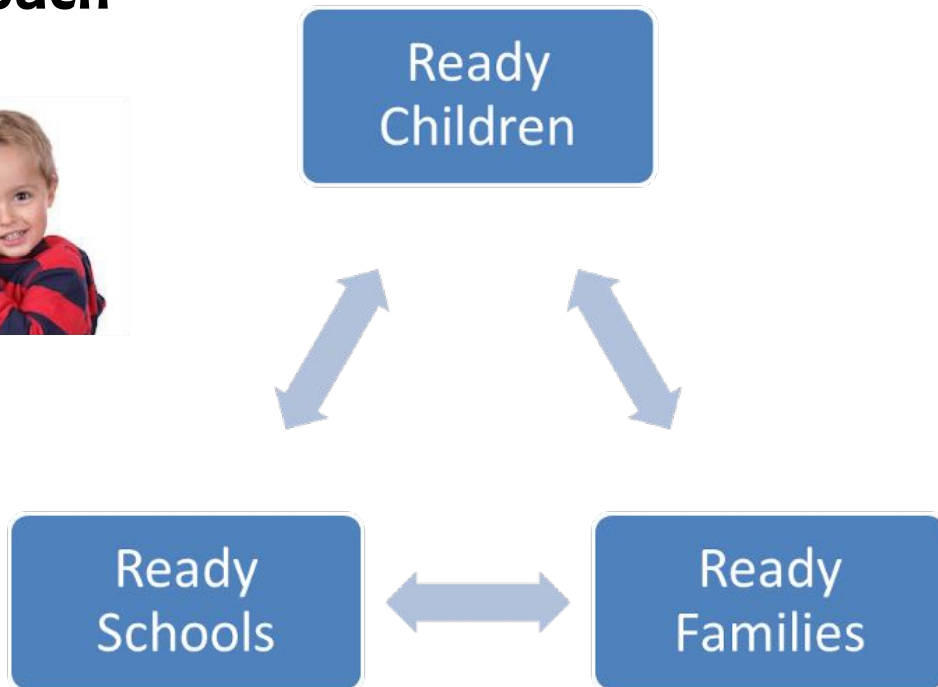
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# A joined up approach



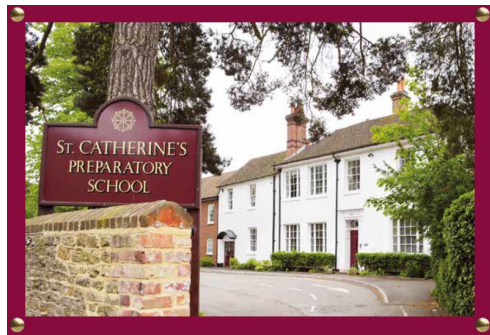
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# How to prepare your child



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# Encouraging independence

- Play fun 'tidy up' games
- Help your children practise getting dressed
- Teach your child handy tricks to aid their independence



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# Checklist for the first day:

- What time to arrive for morning drop off?
- What time to pick up and from where?
- What does your child need to take? PE kit, book bag, water bottle, etc
- Where to hang up coat and put PE kit?
- Are you expected to take your child into the classroom or do they go in on their own?
- Have you put name labels on absolutely everything? Show your child their labels



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# A WEEK AT ST CAT'S PRE-PREP I

Here is a pictorial version of the timetable for your daughter, showing her all the fun our PPI girls have during a week at St Catherines.

- **CLL**  
Communication & Language, Literacy
- **UW**  
Understanding the World
- **EAD**  
Expressive Arts & Design
- **PSED**  
Personal, Social & Emotional Development

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
INDIVIDUAL READING, COMMUNICATION & LANGUAGE AND PLAY ACTIVITIES				
REGISTRATION				
 Assembly with Miss Bartholomew	 Pre-Prep Assembly with Miss Jefford	 CLL	 CLL	 Head's Assembly/ Story time
PLAY TIME				
 Ballet with Mrs Eringa	 Computing	 Movement Reading	 Gym Pre-Prep Chapel	 CLL
LUNCH TIME PREPARATION				
 UW	 PSED Games	LUNCH TIME		 EAD
STORY TIME		 Maths	 Show & Tell Music Life Matters/ Religious Studies	STORY TIME
HOME TIME			PREP - READING	



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# Practical Top Tips for a Great Start

- Listening games
- Read picture books about starting school
- Talk positively about school
- Encourage a 'can do' attitude
- Practise self-help skills
- Establish a routine
- Continue to have clear and consistent boundaries
- Talk to your child's teacher
- Timetable on the fridge
- Enjoy it!



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# Next School Matters Webinar:

## **Positive Digital Parenting: Building Healthy Tech Habits for Children**

*Thursday 13th June at 11am*



St Catherine's Prep School, Bramley

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