

## Reception

Our Early Years Knavesmire aims are for children to feel safe and secure and to care for each other. To develop a love of learning and to know more. To develop critical thinking skills and to know more. To promote independence, positivity and confidence and to all succeed together. We believe that these aims should be at the heart of any learning; in school or at home.

There are many ways that you can help and support your child's learning at home. We feel that parent/teacher communication is key to success and we would encourage any information/interests/issues to be shared with the team. This will allow us to work together to develop encourage the children's knowledge and understanding through things that interest them and take into account their own unique qualities.

When helping your child at home, remember, they have most probably been at school all day, so learning should always be fun and brief. At this age, children learn best through play and things that interest them, so don't underestimate the power of play!

Encouraging your children to become independent in daily life as well as their learning is a large step for children when children first start Reception. One important tip that we would give is to give your child the time to be independent, set aside the extra time needed to allow your child to practice skills for themselves. The following quote is taken from [mrsdscorner.com](http://mrsdscorner.com) and we feel that it highlights the great importance of allowing children to build confidence by doing things for themselves.

When you:  
cut it for me,  
write it for me,  
open it for me,  
set it up for me,  
draw it for me, or  
find it for me  
www.mrsdscorner.com  
ALL I LEARN IS THAT YOU  
DO IT BETTER THAN ME.

## **Communication and Language**

Communication and language skills build the foundations for further learning such as reading, writing and understanding. Having regular conversation's with your child and modelling good listening skills will help your child to develop essential skills.

Please visit the Hungry Little Minds Government campaign for further information.

<https://hungrylittleminds.campaign.gov.uk/>

## **Literacy**

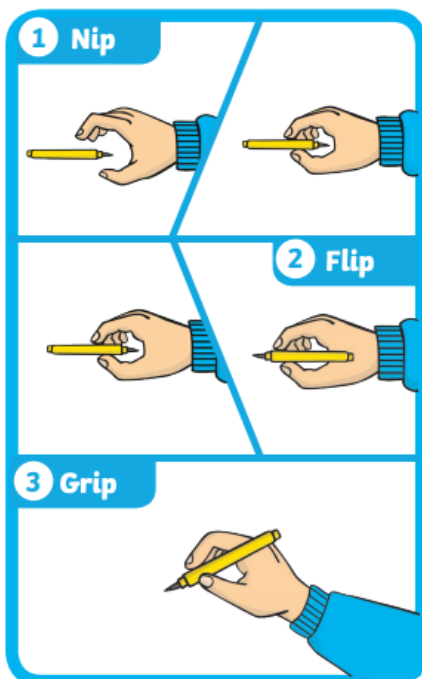
Read, Read, Read! If we can encourage any home learning to be done regularly, it is reading! Reading with your child every day (even if it is just a couple of pages!) will help them to practice their phonic skills and embed the learning that we have been doing in school. Reading books will be matched to the phase/set of sounds that we have been learning.

### **Phonics –**

Phonics can be hard to grasp for some adults that did not learn to read and write through phonics at school. Please see our Phonics power point for detailed information on how you can support your child at home. Please ask if there is anything you are unsure of.

See phonics power point for a list of useful websites.

### **Handwriting –**



Before we move onto handwriting, we must ensure that every child has the correct pencil grip. Please see the examples below. You can support your child in developing the muscles needed for holding their pencil correctly through fine motor activities such as pegging things up, using tweezers for pop poms, careful colouring in, drawing large movements with chalk ect.

We use baseline script handwriting at Knavesmire from Reception – Year 6. Please see the examples of 'how to form letters' below. We will send out handwriting practice sheets at the end of each half term and we will keep you updated on the letters that we are practising each week. Your child will be provided with a handwriting strip and pen so that you can practise at home. Please ensure that your child is holding their pen/pencil with the correct tripod grip before they begin writing.



## Maths

Maths is everywhere in your child's world, whether you notice it or not. It is capacity when playing in the bath with water jugs, it is numerals that they spot on front doors, it is the patterns that they create using shapes. Maths is fun and can be found indoors and out. Giving your child the basic counting principles will lay the foundations for success. Counting objects one by one (that can and cannot be moved) will help your child to understand that numbers represent a certain amount. Counting forward and backwards will help your child to learn 1 more and 1 less. Spotting amounts and then counting them will support subsidising. You can support your child's mathematical thinking by singing counting songs, recognising numerals in the environment, exploring shapes and generally incorporating maths into everyday play!

Please see the following websites;

<https://whiterosemaths.com/reception-sol/>

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/3-5-years/counting>

<https://nrich.maths.org/early-years>

<https://www.ncetm.org.uk/>

## Amendments

+ Gemma Hatfield – 1-1 TA (remove from NU and add Helen W)

Attach - preparing your child for starting school document.

Could we have the Welcome to REC PP down the side like the phonics one?

\*\* Change the titles of 'Children in Reception ELG' and 'COMMUNICATION AND LANGUAGE' to

The Early Learning Goals

Development Matters (Steps to the Early Learning Goals.)