

EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY SERVICE

INFORMATION SHEET FOR EARLY YEARS PRACTITIONERS

SCHOOL READINESS

‘The broad range of skills, knowledge and attitudes children need as foundations for good future progress.’

(Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage, page 4).

Children are school ready when they are resilient and confident, with a keenness to learn and have effective personal and social skills. Examples of readiness indicators may include:

Approaches to Learning: Is excited, curious and or confident about learning; Is learning to explore (takes risks and finds solutions); Has the ability to focus and listen; Stays with an activity to completion; Asks for help.

Health & Physical Well-Being: Receives regular medical and dental care; Has had all necessary immunizations; Cuts with scissors; Uses crayons, pencils and markers correctly to fine motor co-ordination skills; Is able to run, jump and climb and other activities to develop gross motor co-ordination skills.

Language & Communication Development: Uses 5 -6 word sentences; Is able to follow one and two step verbal instructions; Recognises and says simple rhymes; Pretends, creates and makes up songs and stories; Asks questions and expresses curiosity; Recognises some common words in print; Recognises rhyming words.

Social & Emotional Development: Is able to express his or her own needs and wants; follows simple rules and routines; Has begun to develop their turn-taking and co-operative skills; Is able to be away from their parent / carer without being upset; Begin to develop an awareness of their own emotions and behaviour as well as being able to reflect on them.

Cognitive and General Knowledge: Is able to match or group objects according to size, shape or colour; Is able to count and play counting games; Is able to recognise how objects are the same or different; Understands simple positional concepts (in / out, under / over, front / back); Understand simple concepts of time (night & day, today, yesterday, tomorrow).