





# **Stepping Stones**

The first day at school is an emotional milestone for both parents and children. Your child is embarking on a great adventure and your support and guidance will be vital. To help you navigate this new stage, Brambletye shares seven simple tips to set your child up for a happy and positive school experience.

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#### Ease potential separation anxiety

Establish a goodbye routine, carry a comfort object and arrange playdates to build familiarity with classmates.

### Get ready for routine

Familiarise your child with the school day routine. Practice getting up and dressed, having breakfast, preparing PE and book bags, and the school route to arrive in time for school without a rush!

#### Communicate

Help your child express themselves confidently. Encourage dialogue and active listening at home to help them build friendships and engage with teachers.

#### Develop a love of reading

Share quality reading time.
Stories and nursery rhymes
help develop auditory skills
and understanding of language
patterns while also creating
treasured moments of
togetherness.

## Accentuate the positive

Ask about the day's highlights and what your child looks forward to every day. Listen and respond calmly and supportively to any concerns. Share any that are ongoing with the school so you can work together to navigate and resolve them.

## Nurture independence

Teach practical life skills like getting dressed and tidying up. Use descriptive praise to boost confidence and a sense of purpose.

#### Spark curiosity

Be curious about your child's observations and explore the world together!