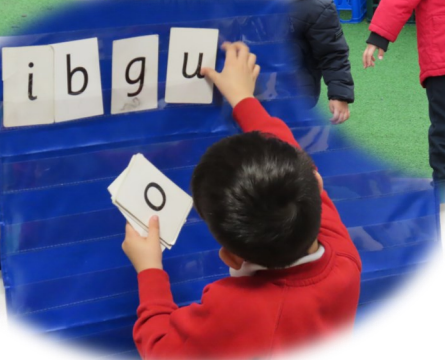




Starting Reception in September 2026

Information Pack



A very warm welcome to Reception at Chesterfield Primary School September 2026!

Dear Parents and Carers,

Following your acceptance of a place for your child in our Reception Class starting this September 2026, we are delighted to extend a very warm welcome to your family from everyone here at Chesterfield Primary School! We take immense pride in our vibrant school community and are genuinely excited about getting to know you and your child soon.

We understand that starting Reception is a significant and exciting milestone for both children and parents. Our dedicated team is committed to making this transition into school life as smooth, happy, and positive as possible for everyone. To help achieve this, we operate a carefully planned gradual intake programme at the beginning of term. This approach has proven very successful over the years, allowing children the time and space to settle comfortably, familiarise themselves with their new surroundings, build confidence, and feel secure and happy at school from day one. Our priority is always the well-being and successful integration of every child.

To give you a flavour of life in Reception and answer some initial questions you might have, we have put together the enclosed information pack. It offers insights into daily routines, the curriculum and practical matters.

Please also look out for other important documents and information included with this pack – we encourage you to take the time to read everything thoroughly.

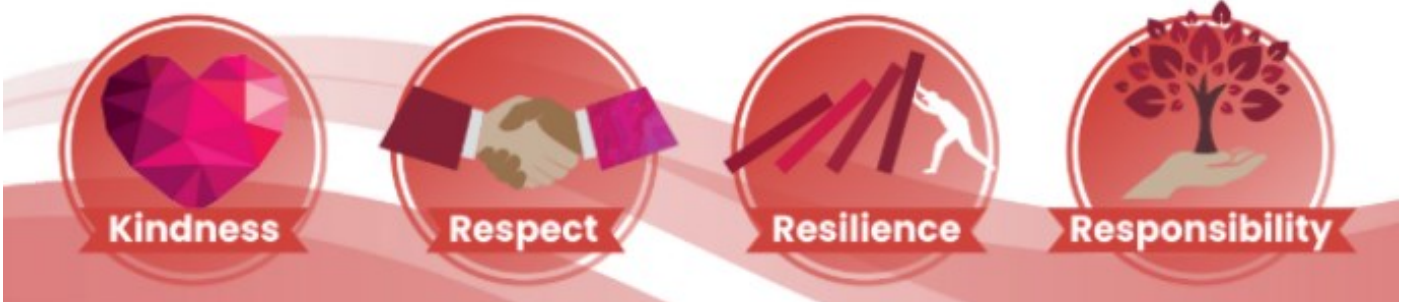
We believe strong partnerships between home and school are key. Should you have any questions, concerns, or simply wish to chat further about the transition, please don't hesitate to reach out to our Early Years team. You can contact them via the main school office at **01992 760678** or by emailing office@chesterfieldprimary.org (please mark your email for the attention of the Early Years Team).

You can also explore our school website for more general information: www.chesterfieldschool.co.uk

We are very much looking forward to embarking on this exciting educational journey with you and your child.

Warmest regards,

The Reception Team
Chesterfield Primary School



Early Years Foundation Stage Framework

Information for Parents and Carers

What Is the Early Years Foundation Stage Statutory Framework?

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) statutory framework is a government document that all schools and Ofsted-registered early years providers in England must follow. It sets standards for the learning, development and care of your child from birth to 5 years old. The standards ensure your child will learn and develop well and are kept healthy and safe.

★ What Will My Child Be Learning?

The EYFS framework outlines seven areas of learning and development and educational programmes. There are three **prime** areas of learning, which are particularly important for your child's development and future learning:

communication and language

personal, social and emotional development

physical development

There are four **specific** areas of learning, through which the prime areas are strengthened and applied:

literacy

mathematics

understanding the world

expressive arts and design

Early years practitioners also use your child's needs and interests to plan challenging and enjoyable activities and experiences.

★ How Will My Child Be Learning?

The EYFS framework identifies the essential role of play in your child's development. It is through both child-led play and play guided by an adult that your child will develop confidence and relationships with others. Through play, EYFS practitioners will help your child to extend their vocabulary and develop their communication skills.

The EYFS framework identifies three characteristics of effective teaching and learning:

playing and exploring

active learning

creating and thinking critically

A greater focus on teaching specific skills will occur as your child progresses through their reception year, which will help them to prepare for year one.

★ How Will I Know How My Child Is Doing?

Each child in the EYFS has a key person who will work in partnership with you, sharing information about your child. EYFS settings may also use observations to share your child's key achievements.

EYFS practitioners use their professional knowledge to understand your child's level of development. If they have any concerns about your child's progress, they will discuss these with you.

Three formal assessments take place during the EYFS:

- Two-Year Progress Check (this will happen between the ages of 24 to 36 months)
- Reception Baseline Assessment (at the start of the reception year)
- Early Years Foundation Stage Profile (at the end of the EYFS)

Your child's Early Years Foundation Stage Profile will be shared with you at the end of the EYFS. This will inform you of your child's progress and whether they have met or are continuing to work towards their early learning goals (ELGs). There are 17 ELGs your child is expected to achieve by the end of the EYFS.



School Uniform

You can buy school uniform from <https://www.uniform4kids.com/collections/chesterfield> or from Lyons School Shop, 242 Hertford Road, Enfield EN3 5B . Please make sure it is all named. This is particularly important with school jumpers as they can easily get mixed up when children take them off. Please do not send your child in laced shoes until they are able to tie them themselves.

Velcro school shoes are more appropriate for Reception.

Please make sure that your child is dressed appropriately for the weather – a waterproof, warm coat for the winter and sun hat and sunscreen for the summer. Children should also have a separate, named water bottle.



All Year Round

- Red school sweat shirt or cardigan with Chesterfield school logo
- Grey or black trousers or skirt
- White collared t-shirt with Chesterfield logo
- Black shoes (with Velcro fastening please)
- Plain coloured hijab



For Summer

- Girls: Red and white check or stripe summer dress or knee-length short trousers.
- Boys: Black or grey knee length short trousers

For PE—Active Uniform

We wear our PE kit to school on PE days

- Chesterfield branded red school jumper or cardigan
- Black shorts or black footless leggings and white t-shirts (long or short sleeved)
- Black trainers (with Velcro fastening)
- Blue or black plain track or jogging suit bottoms

Hair

For health and safety and practical reasons, long hair should always be tied back during the school day using simple ties bands or clips.

Sun Hats and Water Bottles

Please ensure that every day, and especially on hot sunny days, you send your child in with a named sunhat and a separate named water bottle as well as the drink in their lunchbox.

School Bag

Red Chesterfield book bag or backpack

Drop-off and Pick-up

Start of the School Day

The school gates open at 8.45am. Please enter the Reception playground through the wooden gate and your child's class teacher will be waiting at the door to welcome the children in. We ask that you make every effort to ensure your child is in the classroom straight away as they will be taking part in an early morning activity. Any child arriving after 9:00am will have to be taken to the office and will be marked as late. We ask that you try to get your child in on time as it can be disruptive to their learning if they are late.



Home Time

School finishes at 3.15pm.

If someone new is collecting your child please make sure you tell the teacher in the morning or phone the school office and let them know the name of the person who will be collecting. We will not be able to release your child to someone we do not know. The minimum age for collecting a child is 18 years old.



We would kindly ask that you are not on your mobile phone when dropping your child off or picking them up as the class teacher might need to speak to you.

It is very important that you ensure that you pick your child up promptly at 3:15pm and, if possible, that you pick them up before older siblings, as children can become distressed if they are the last one left in the classroom.

For health and safety reasons, please do not allow your child or their siblings to play on the play equipment before or after school.

School meals and packed lunch

Your child is entitled to a free hot meal in Reception. You will be provided with log-in details to view the menus and choose your child's meal. Alternatively, you can provide your child with a healthy packed lunch.

Please note that we are a nut-free school. Please do not send nuts or food containing nuts, including Nutella/chocolate spreads, as we have several children and adults in the school with severe nut allergies.



Attendance and Punctuality

Our expectation is at least 96% attendance for all our children.

We operate a soft start from 8:45am and lessons start at 9:00am

It is really important that your child comes to school every day, on time.

Children with good attendance feel secure in the routine of Reception, settle in more quickly, make friends easier and benefit from all the learning opportunities that happen every day.

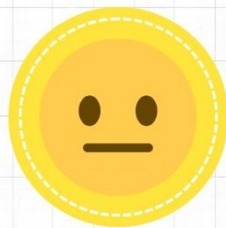
Children with attendance over 95% are much more likely to be on track in all the areas of the Early Years Foundation Stage at the end of Reception,

How good is your child's attendance?



OVER 90%

Excellent attendance!
You are giving your child the best start to their education.



80-90%

We are beginning to have concerns about your child's absence.
Try to bring your child more regularly.



50-80%

Your child is considered as persistently absent.
What can we do to help? Speak to your key worker.



BELOW 50%

Your child is considered as severely absent.
We need to urgently work together to improve their attendance.

Medical

Medicine can only be given to children if it has been prescribed by the doctor and handed in to the office, where a form needs to be completed and signed by an adult. Your child must remain at home for 48 hours after the last time they were sick with vomiting or diarrhoea.

If your child is going to be absent from school for please phone the school early on the first day of illness and let us know. You will also need to bring in a letter explaining your child's absence when they return to school. Please call the school on 01992 760678.

My child is unwell, should I send them to school?

Sometimes it is difficult to know whether to keep your child off school or send them in. Always try and send your child to school if they are a little 'under the weather', for example, with a runny nose, headache, mild tummy-ache. The school will always contact you if your child is unwell, which is why it is vitally important that we have your correct contact details. HOWEVER, please do not send your child to school if they have any infectious illnesses like Chicken Pox, Measles etc. If your child has been vomiting or is suffering from diarrhoea, then they must stay away from school for 48 hours from the last bout of illness. This is to ensure that any infection does not spread through the school.

Martina, our friendly Welfare Officer is on hand to give support and advice to parents/ carers and can be contacted on 01992 760678 or via email: office@chesterfieldprimary.org

The NHS has a handy guide to the most common childhood illnesses and what you should do.

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

Safeguarding

What is Safeguarding in School?

Safeguarding is about protecting children from abuse or neglect.

Safeguarding - A definition

Protecting children from maltreatment, whether the risk of harm comes from within the child's family and/or outside (from the wider community), including online

Preventing impairment of children's mental and physical health or development

Ensuring that children are growing up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care

Taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes



Working together Dec 2023
Keeping Children Safe in Education 2025

At Chesterfield Primary School, the safety and well-being of our children is of the utmost importance and we are all responsible for the safety of all children. We ensure that we are doing all we can to protect the most vulnerable members of our society.

All staff receive annual safeguarding training and our school is fully compliant with guidelines published by the Department for Education: 'Working together to safeguard children', 'Keeping children safe in education' and 'Safeguarding children and safer recruitment in education'.

Please note that It is NOT the responsibility of the school to investigate suspected abuse. Parents should be aware that where there is suspected abuse, the welfare of the child is paramount. In the interest of the child, staff may need to share information with other professionals. Please be aware that the school staff may also need to speak with you if a child discloses information that concerns them.



Chesterfield Primary School

Designated Safeguarding Staff



Cristina Jordan

Designated Safeguarding Lead/Deputy Head



Sarah Roberts

Deputy Safeguarding Lead/Headteacher



Julie Phillips

Deputy Safeguarding Lead



Laura Nwanya

Deputy Safeguarding Lead



Jon Simms

Safeguarding Governor

Please contact any of the above staff if:

- Any child discloses information that causes concern
- You see any unexpected marks on a child's body
- If a child displays any worrying behaviour

Please record any concerns on a C4C or CPOMS immediately

Reading and Phonics

Reading

Please read at home with your child on a regular basis. At the start of the year, encourage your child to tell their own story from the pictures. Ask your child questions about the story and try to find the sounds we have learnt in school within the book. We encourage daily reading at home and children will be given books to take home.

Phonics

What is Phonics?

Phonics is a way of teaching children to read quickly and skillfully.

They are taught how to:

- ✧ Recognise the sounds that each individual letter makes
- ✧ Identify the sounds that different combinations of letters make (e.g. /sh/)
- ✧ Blend these sounds together from left to right to make a word
- ✧ At Chesterfield, we use the Read Write Inc programme



Phonics Books

Your child will learn new sounds each week. They will bring home a phonics book which will match the level that they are at in the RWI program. Read these with your child every day at home and comment and sign in their reading record book.

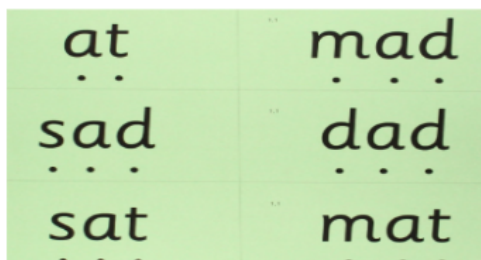
Your child will be sent home letter formation sheets that correspond to the sounds they have learnt that week for your child to practise at home.

You can also play games such as I-spy to help reinforce the sounds.

Phonics

Set 1 sounds

These sounds are introduced in Nursery and taught daily in Reception. The children will begin to learn to blend and segment to help them with reading and spelling. This will begin with simple words e.g. at, on, am, mat, sit, pot (Word Time lessons).



Speed Sounds Set 1

m	a	s	d	t
i	n	p	g	o
c	k	u	b	f
e	l	h	sh	r
j	v	y	w	th
z	ch	qu	x	ng nk

I am Ready for School!

Fine Motor Readiness

I can:

- fasten and unfasten my shoes and coat
- hold and use a pencil to make marks
- use scissors to cut along a line
- build using blocks



Developing Independence

I can:

- use the toilet when I need it
- wash and dry my hands
- use cutlery to feed myself
- identify my own belongings (e.g. coat, bag)



Physical Readiness

I can:

- go up and down stairs safely
- move to music
- kick, throw and catch a ball
- ride a bike, trike or scooter



Academic Readiness

I can:

- recognise numbers to 20
- identify basic colours
- recognise my name
- identify basic shapes

Personal, Social and Emotional Readiness

I can:

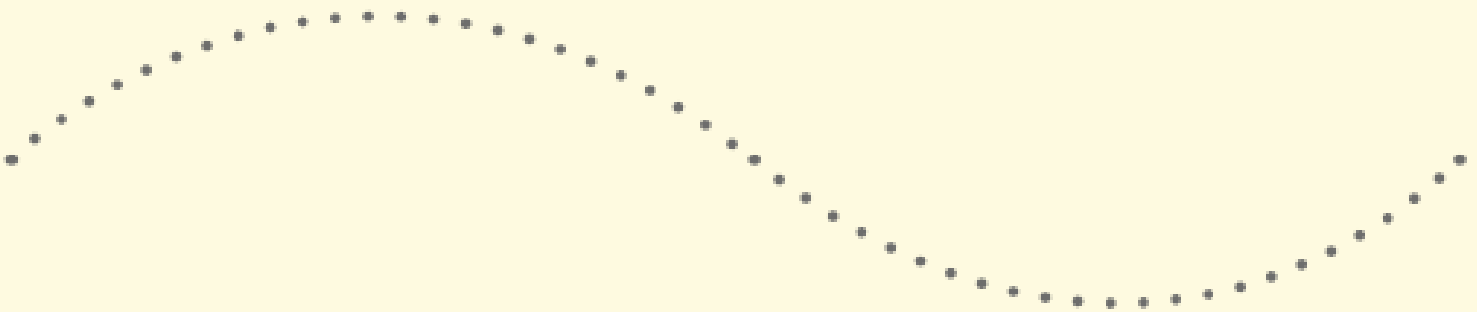
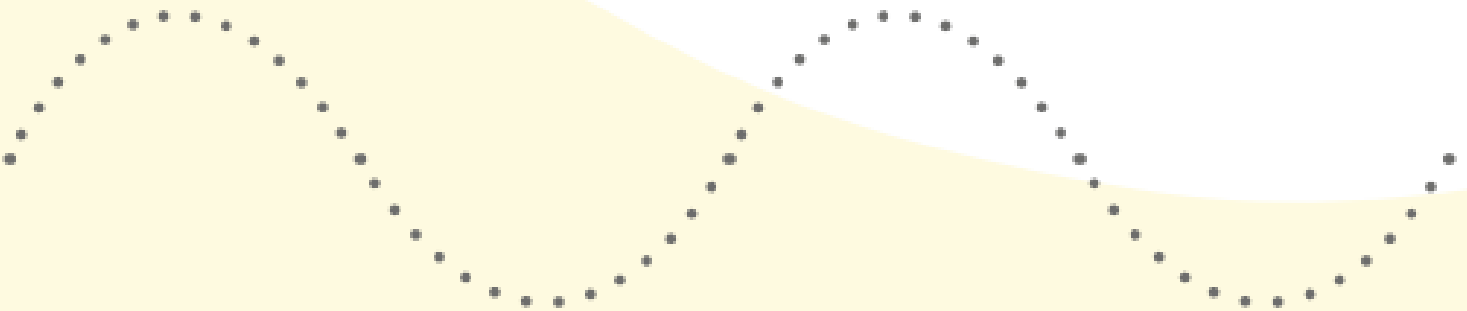
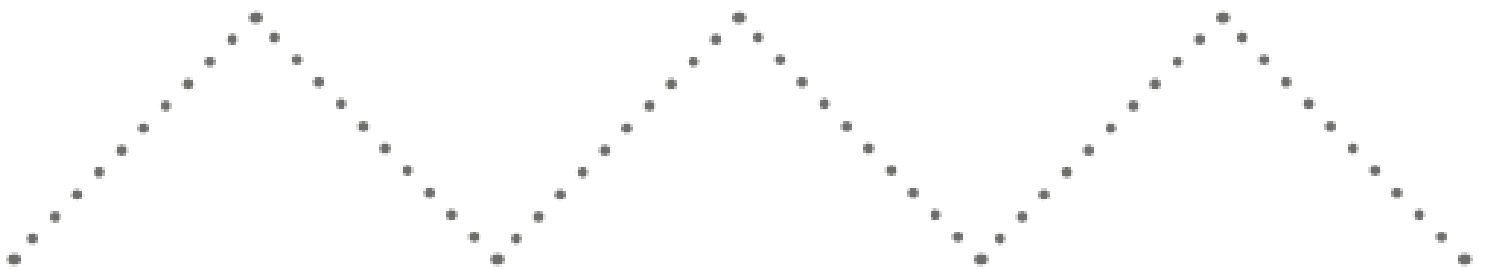
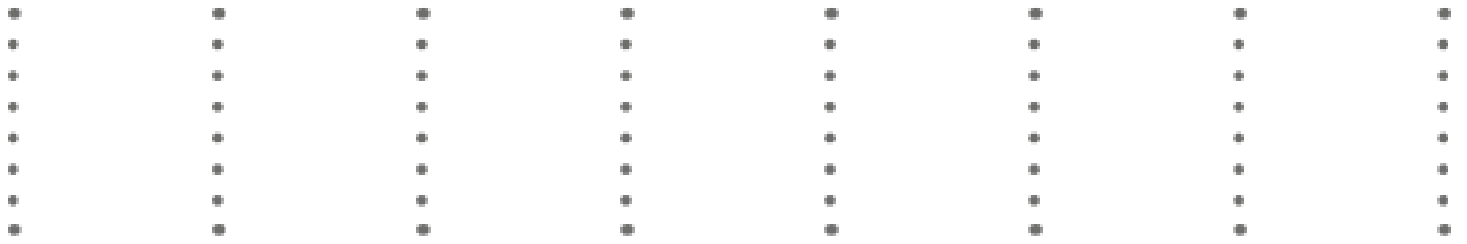
- follow instructions
- take turns
- ask for help when I need it
- tell people how I'm feeling

Getting Ready to Start School!

**Summer holiday activity ideas for
you to print and complete with your
child at home**


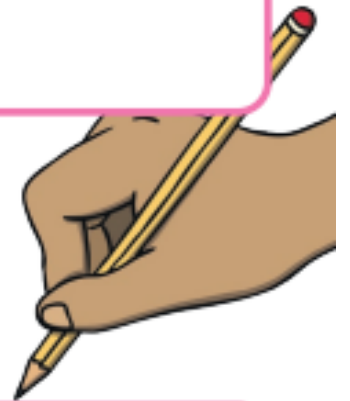
(please contact us if you would like a printed copy of these activities)

I can hold a pencil and trace a line.



I can write and read my name.

Write your child's name in one of the boxes below and ask them to trace it with their pencil. Then, encourage them to have a go at writing their name on their own in the other box.



I can trace the numbers 1 to 20.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

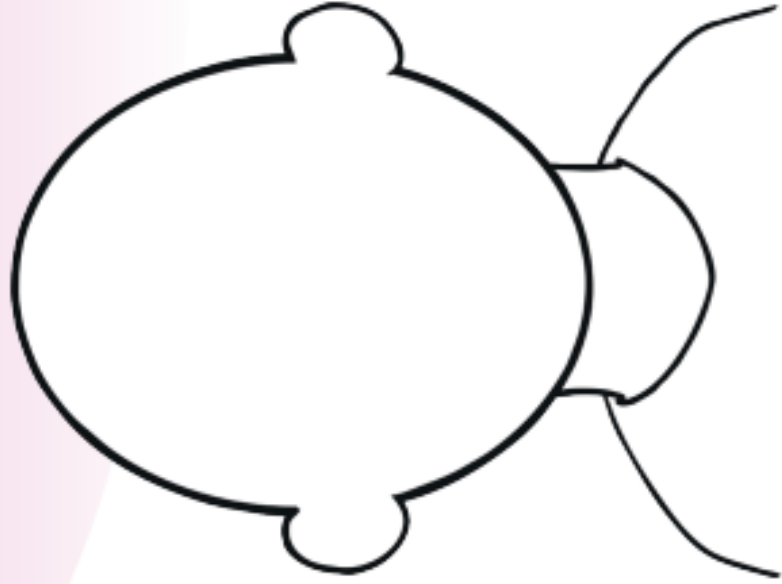
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19

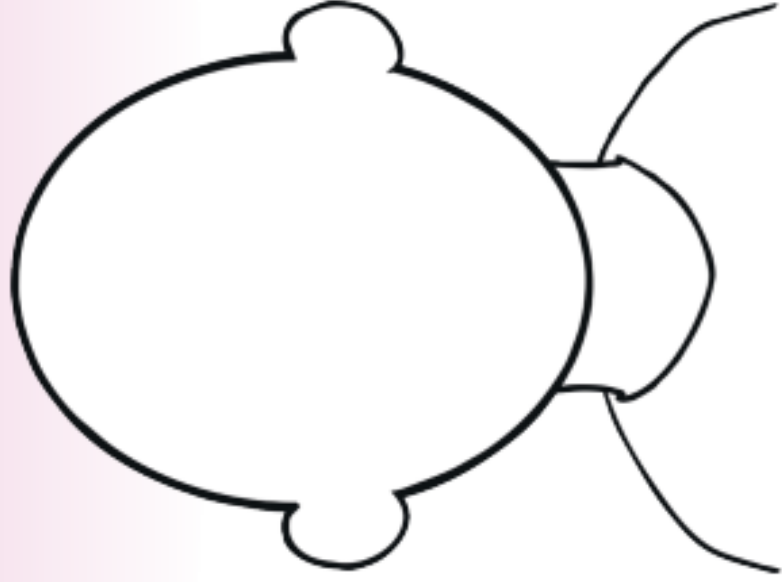
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I understand that others have feelings.

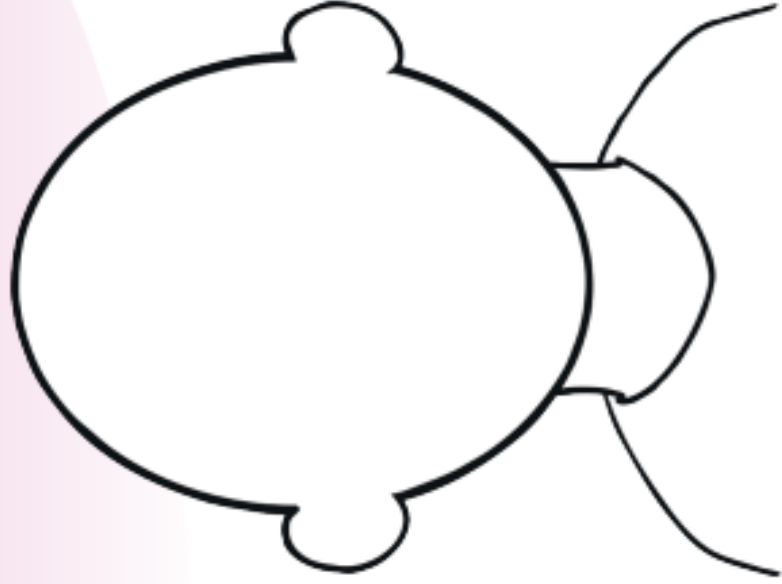
Ask an adult to read the feelings to you and draw a face for each one.



happy



sad



angry

I can take turns and play nicely with others.

Circle the three pictures that show good behaviour.



I can go to the toilet and wash my hands.

Cut out the pictures and place them in the boxes in the correct order.



1



2



3



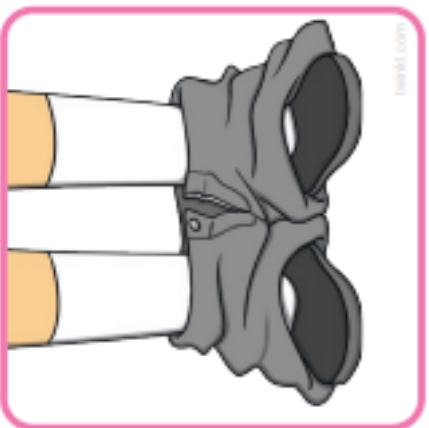
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5



6



I can follow simple instructions.

Ask an adult to read out the tasks and then complete them.



Stand on one leg.



Pat your head.



Touch something blue.



Reach up high.



Whisper your name.



Turn around and touch your toes.



Put your hands on your shoulders and jump.



Wiggle your toes and clap.

