Our starting-school checklist

Practical preparations to discuss with your child's setting.

Tick what you have checked; leave anything that does not apply.

This is a family planning sheet, not a test of a child's skills.

Information to get from the setting

- ☐ Confirm the start date, arrival point, collection arrangements and who to contact.
- ☐ Ask what to bring, what clothing is practical and how belongings should be labelled.
- ☐ Find out how snacks, lunch, toilets and changes of clothes are handled.

Small routines to make familiar

- ☐ Try the journey or talk through photos of the entrance if available.
- ☐ Practise one useful phrase or gesture for asking an adult for help.
- ☐ Put a few familiar morning pictures in order and keep the sequence flexible.

Things to share with the adults

- ☐ Explain communication preferences and routines that already help.
- ☐ Discuss individual access or support needs privately with the setting.
- ☐ Agree how to review the first days and raise a concern.

Choose one small next step. Ask the school about its own arrangements.

Keep personal support or care information in the school's private channels.