



ACADEMIC SUCCESS

Is My Child Ready?

Use this checklist to help you reflect on your child's development across the key areas assessed at leading independent school 4+ entry.

Every child develops differently - this is simply a guide

Cognitive & Academic Readiness

- ☐ Focus on a short adult-led task?
- ☐ Count objects up to 10 (or beyond)?
- ☐ Recognise some letters or sounds?
- ☐ Match, sort or complete simple patterns and sequences?
- ☐ Identify shapes, colours, or numbers confidently?
- ☐ Speak in full sentences and describe a picture or story?

Fine Motor & Physical Readiness

- ☐ Hold a pencil or crayon with reasonable control?
- ☐ Use scissors to snip or cut along a line?
- ☐ Complete basic puzzles or threading activities?
- ☐ Put on or take off coat and shoes with some independence?
- ☐ Manage snacks, toileting and hand washing mostly independently?

Social & Emotional Skills

- ☐ Separate from you without distress?
- ☐ Take turns and share during group play?
- ☐ Show kindness or empathy to others?
- ☐ Express their feelings or ask for help appropriately?
- ☐ Follow simple two-step instructions?
- ☐ Manage transitions (e.g. moving between activities)?

Creative Thinking & Communication

- ☐ Show curiosity by asking questions or exploring new ideas?
- ☐ Engage in imaginative or role play?
- ☐ Create a simple picture, story or build something from blocks?
- ☐ Retell or respond to a story with recall or ideas?

Parent Insight

- ☐ I can see my child is beginning to thrive in structured activities
- ☐ My child enjoys learning and shows curiosity about the world
- ☐ I would like expert insight on how to prepare with confidence

- If you've ticked many of these boxes – fantastic! Your child may be ready to begin 4+ preparation
- If not yet – don't worry. These skills can be nurtured gently through play and expert-led support