

Starting Reception



Case study: Embedding 'Starting Reception' across Oasis Multi Academy Trust

Overview

The Kemnal Academy Trust (TKAT) supports 45 schools across the UK, including 29 primary schools and 20 nurseries. Like many schools, TKAT has seen a decline in communication and language outcomes among its most vulnerable pupils, with a notable drop in speaking skills. The Trust has also found that parents are less likely to engage with school readiness discussions and sessions, especially face-to-face, and are less likely to value the importance of being in school and being ready for school.



Getting ready to start school!

Taking care of yourself

How many of these things can you do for yourself?

- Putting on / taking off your coat and shoes
- Using the toilet and washing your hands
- Getting dressed
- Using a fork and spoon and drinking from an open cup

Shared Voice | Shared Belief | Shared Success
#oneTKATfamily

The Approach

TKAT have developed a new strategy to address school readiness, which focusses on engaging with parents over a longer period of time. As part of that strategy they have used the different sections within the Starting Reception definition to create a series of postcards featuring skills and activities that children can work on at home.

The postcards have been printed and delivered to all schools in the trust, along with a letter from their school inviting them to bring the postcards in on specific dates. Children earn stickers for attempting each skill/activity on the postcards.

The approach has dual benefits: the families and children work on developing key skills at home, and the schools gain insight into each child's skills and level of family engagement.

Next steps

Though still in the early stages, TKAT hopes to see better school readiness and engagement from parents over time.