

Saplings Life & Classroom Skills Progression

In Saplings we develop independence, self-care, routines, and emotional skills that promote confident, independent learners.

Area			
Toileting & Hygiene	Begins toilet training; communicates need; washes hands with help.	Uses toilet with reminders; help with wiping; reminders to washes and dry hands.	Fully toilet trained, reminders to washes and dry hands.
Dressing & Self-Care	Help with putting coat on.	Puts on coat with support.	Puts on coat with support, help with zip.
Snack & Mealtime Independence	Chooses snack with help; selects cup for drink, uses spoon.	Pours drink with support; tidies up with reminders. Uses fork and spoon.	Pours drink from jug; tidies up. Uses fork and spoon, knife with support.
Lining Up & Transitions	Learns to line up with support; stands near peers.	Lines up with reminders; waits calmly.	Lines up independently; transitions smoothly.
Turn-Taking	Begins to take turns with adult support.	Takes turns with reminders.	Takes turns and cooperates independently.
Playing Independently	Explores areas with adult supporting play.	Chooses activities independently for a limited time.	Sustains play and tidies resources. Extending play with support.
Recognising Name	Notices name card with image support.	Recognises name by first letter.	Recognises first name with support/hints.
Tidy-Up & Responsibility	Helps tidy with adult modelling.	Tidies chosen area with friends and reminders.	Tidies independently; cares for resources.
Following Routines & Instructions	Follows one-step instructions.	Follows two-step instructions.	Follows routines independently.
Emotional Development	Expresses basic needs; begins to notice feelings.	Talks about feelings; shows kindness with adults.	Recognises others' feelings.
Learning Behaviours	Concentrates for 3–4 minutes; enjoys praise.	Sustains focus for longer periods; shows pride in effort.	Persists with challenges; plans next steps.
Understanding Provision & Safety	Notices if an area is too busy with support; follows safety reminders.	Follows rules on areas being too busy.	Follows safety rules independently; helps others.
Classroom Community	Joins group tidy-up songs.	Takes on helper roles.	Models routines for peers; shows pride.

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