

# The 15 most important skills for children commencing school

The child can...

- Use the toilet independently
- Follow verbal instructions/directions (one step or more)
- Dress and undress (jumper, hat, paint shirt, socks & shoes without tying laces)
- Identify/recognize own name in print
- Look after own belongings
- Share with peers
- Express/indicate needs and wants
- Hold pencil to make marks on paper
- Keep still for short periods of time and listen
- Separate from parents at school
- Take turns
- Speak clearly
- Identify own school bag and belongings
- Open lunch box and packaging
- Use tissue/handkerchief

*(as nominated by kindergarten teachers in 36 schools in the Campbelltown District) Researcher: G Hand, Senior Guidance Officer, Campbelltown District Office, Department of Education and Training (1999)*