

Understanding Pre-Teaching and How It Helps Your Child

What Is Pre-Teaching?

- Introduces new words & ideas BEFORE class
- Helps children feel confident & ready to learn



Why It Works



Better understanding



Increased confidence



Improved communication

Examples at Home



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12



Your Role as a Parent

Read together, explore topics, and make learning fun!

Support From Our School



Topic Overviews



Regular updates & resources



Class Pages

What is pre-teaching?

Pre-teaching is a strategy that involves exposing learners to vocabulary, concepts or skills before they encounter them in the classroom. This technique aims to provide the language and skill building blocks to ensure every learner is prepared for new concepts before the next topic takes place.

Pre-teaching is different from other types of self-led learning, as the subject matter will always be explored in the next lesson or topic. This reserves the classroom for the application or deepening of knowledge rather than the introduction of it.

The primary objective of pre-teaching is to identify the gaps in knowledge for the learner before it's taught, and bridge this gap ensures the upcoming lessons will be successful for both them and the teachers involved.

Often when we use pre-learning in school, it will help the child to engage more within the lesson prepared for this subject. If they have already had some exposure to this then this helps them to feel more confident when the lesson comes around and they are more likely to stay engaged, learn more deeply and participate more fully.

As part of everyday teaching we revisit previous topics and build on the knowledge and skills so that children can make links in their learning. When children don't retain learning (although this could be related to a number of different factors which your child's teacher and the SEND dept will be investigating), this is often because they have not had enough time to practice a skill before moving to the next step. Home learning can also be a vehicle to providing more practice to the pupil so that they are better equipped at school to be independent and confident in their learning. We call this repetitive practice 'Overlearning' (more about this in another link).

Pre-teaching can also be done at home to support your child with their learning at school and help them to have a more positive learning experience. The school provides an outline of topics with skills and knowledge that will be covered in each term, in each class (you will find these on the website). In which lesson content is given to learners as homework to allow them to prepare for the upcoming lesson. This allows the classroom to be a space where ideas are discussed and explored in

more detail. If vocabulary is understood in advance through set videos or word lists, or if research about a subject or concept has already been learned.

Often in subjects like maths, this will mean exposing children to the vocabulary (possibly using a picture to word mat) or playing games with mathematical vocabulary but in this particular subject, it could mean practicing a skill that may need to be used in the classroom to solve a more complex problem, such as; practicing fluency in times tables to solve fraction problems, or number bonds for word problems associated with addition.

Key Benefits of Pre-Learning:

Core Academic Benefits

- **Increased Comprehension:** Familiarising children with a topic early creates a foundation of knowledge. When they encounter the material again in class, they can better understand and retain the information which means they will engage and participate better giving a more positive learning experience
- **Deeper Learning:** Because the basic "what" is already known, children can spend classroom time on "why" and "how," leading to more profound insights rather than simple memorisation.
- **School Readiness:** Early exposure to pre-maths (counting, sorting) and pre-literacy (rhymes, letter sounds) ensures these skills are embedded before formal primary education begins. The development of this as they become older with pre-practicing the skills needed to solve problems takes away one of the cognitive loads. For example; if a child can recite their times tables then they can focus better on the problem with fractions.

Emotional and Psychological Impact

- **Reduced Stress and Anxiety:** Much of school-related stress comes from the fear of "not knowing." Pre-learning removes this uncertainty, helping children feel more secure when a new lesson starts.
- **Boosted Confidence:** Children who feel prepared are more likely to participate in class discussions. This positive reinforcement builds self-esteem and a "can-do" attitude toward learning.
- **Instilling a Love for Learning:** When learning feels achievable rather than overwhelming, children develop a life long curiosity and a growth mindset (something we actively teach our children at Long Lane)

Social and Practical Advantages

- **Smooth Transitions:** Pre-learning often involves getting used to structured routines (like following instructions or group activities), which makes the shift to primary school much easier and also further on with transition to juniors and secondary school/work.
- **Enhanced Vocabulary:** Early exposure to "language-rich" environments helps children expand their vocabulary from approximately 900 to 2,500 words between ages 3 and 5. This doesn't stop. This is why we promote reading even when you can read. Your vocabulary keeps growing all the time when you are exposed to it. We don't want our children to play safe with words, we want them to be curious, learn and grow.
- **Improved Performance:** Research indicates that children with early support from parents or high-quality pre-learning environments are more likely to achieve better later in their academic careers.

The Role of the Parent

- **First Teacher:** Research emphasizes that parents are the first teachers; supporting the home learning environment by reading to children and providing engaging activities is equally as important as formal pre-schooling.
- **Partnership:** Engaging with preschool staff allows parents to stay informed about their child's progress and reinforce learning at home.

At Long Lane we want to help parents with this.

1. *All our topic overviews for each term and for each class are made public so that you can see what is coming up – [Click Here](#)*
2. *Our news letters give links to what is coming up and how this event can be supported with pre-learning – [click here](#)*
3. *Each class page supports a pre-learning for the year group with helpful links and supports – [click here](#)*