Social, Emotional & Mental Health (SEMH)

Be specific in your praise. Rather than 'That's good' say 'I like the word 'giant' because…' or 'Well done for working out that 2+2=4 by…'

If you are not sure what the child can/cannot yet do, talk to their teacher. If school is new, take it slowly. Start with things that are too easy to build confidence.

If today is stressful— leave it until tomorrow!

How to contact us:

virtualschool
@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

01223 699883

www.cambslearntogether.co.uk/
school-improvement/
cambridgeshires-virtual-school-
for-looked-after-children

Our other leaflets give information on a wide range of further topics such as PP+, SEN, Attendance & Exclusions. Please go to our website.

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How to help with learning Reception/Key Stage 1

For Foster Carers & their Social Workers

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Reading/Phonics

Check with school to find out which Phonics scheme they use (letter sounds). Ask what you can do to help.

Sharing books for 5 minutes a day is better than 30 minutes once a week. Talk about the pictures & ask them questions

Foster a love of stories: watch movies and talk about the plot & characters, listen to audio books when in the car, make up stories together.
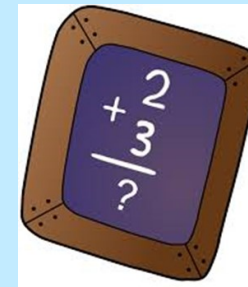
Writing

Encourage use of pencils, crayons, chalk etc to improve fine motor skills. Give opportunities to draw, paint, colour in and trace.

Write down what they tell you while they watch. Start a diary together & add it to their life story work.

When they start writing, don't correct what they've done. If needed write it again yourself separately & talk about it if they are ready.

Maths

Board games, card games & dice games are the best way to improve mental maths. Ask others for some suggestions of what to buy.

Ask school how they can help. Lots now have Apps/Websites that link home learning to what is being taught in school.

Use 'Growth Mindset' talk: 'You can't do it YET. But with practice…'