



# JAMES AITON PRIMARY



## PRIMARY 1 TRANSITION

### The Benefits of Playdough

It is our pleasure to work in partnership with you as your child prepares to begin their educational journey at Primary School.

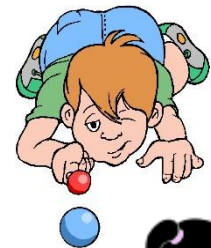
During the coming months, one of the things you can do is to encourage your child to play with playdough. This has many benefits which will help your child on their educational journey.

Firstly, **playdough helps to develop fine motor skills.** Squishing, squashing, and rolling play dough all develop children's muscles. As a result, your child's hand and finger muscles are prepared for holding a pencil and beginning to write. It also helps with cutting skills when using scissors.



**Playdough is also very therapeutic.** Simply sitting and squashing and rolling a piece of playdough in your hand is a very calming and soothing activity. It can help a child to improve focus and concentration, as well as reducing anxiety and easing tensions.

**Playdough helps to develop hand-eye co-ordination.** Using a variety of materials and objects when playing with playdough can enhance hand-eye co-ordination, as your child focuses on what they are making. This also helps to improve concentration and perseverance as your child works at their creation until they get it looking the way they want.



**Playdough develops creativity and imagination.** All sorts of things can be made using playdough - monsters, cakes, animals, gardens, etc. Talking about your child's creation also then develops literacy skills, as they build vocabulary, give explanations, and express opinions, etc

