Get set to write
• Support your child to recognise their name and practice writing it with a capital letter at the start, followed by lower case letters.
• Write a shopping list together and get your child to find the items while shopping.
• Encourage your child to draw and use the correct pencil grip.

Get set to read and talk
• Read lots of books with your children and talk about the pictures, words and storyline.
• Children love to hear their favourite book many times.
• Everyday activities provide opportunities to develop language skills.
• Play games to help your child know their colours and shapes.
• Encourage lots of questions.
• Support your child to know the names and sounds of letters.
• Sing songs and nursery rhymes.

Get set to count
Help your child to learn to count to 10 and recognise the numbers.
• Steps
• Toys
• Food on a plate
• Balls in a basket
• Children at the park

Encouraging Independence
• Give your child opportunities to play with children their age.
• Support your child to identify their own belongings.
• Develop skills with your child to be able to dress and undress, use a pencil, scissors, open lunches and use the toilet independently.

“To make a difference in your child’s life NOTHING beats reading. So join your local Library, attend a Storytime session, Remember: children who read will always succeed.”
Margaret Spillman, Teacher Librarian.

“Find out if your school has any prep transition or orientation programs on offer. Children that are exposed to the school environment settle better into school life.”
Marnie Stark, Early Years Health and Wellbeing Liaison Officer.
Important Tips

• Visit the school when other children are there so that your child can get used to the busy school environment.
• Attend an orientation program or Chat and Play session to help familiarise your child with the school.
• It is important to be positive about school and teachers, encourage your child to understand that teachers are at school to help.
• Get involved in the school community.
• Make sure all possessions are clearly labelled with your child’s name.
• Prepare your child by explaining what will happen at school.
• Show your child where to wait for you in the afternoon or where to go for after school care.
• Check with your Kindy or Childcare about how they can help children make a smooth transition to prep.

Shakespeare Child and Family Centre
Telephone: 07 4657 7222
Website: www.georgestreetnc.org.au

George Street Neighbourhood Centre
Telephone: 07 4657 2626
Website: www.georgestreetnc.org.au

Mackay Community Health Centre
Telephone: 07 4968 3863
Website: www.health.qld.gov.au

Dept of Education and Training
Telephone: 07 3237 0111
Website: http://deta.qld.gov.au/

ParentLine
Telephone: 1300 301 300
Website: www.parentline.com.au

Mackay Inclusion Support Agency
Telephone: 07 4953 4474

Websites:
KidsMatter: www.kidsmatter.edu.au
Raising Children: www.raisingchildren.net.au
ABC: www.abc.net.au/parenting
Early Childhood Australia: www.earlychildhoodaustralia.org.au
Australian Early Development Index: www.aedi.org.au