

Settling In

We aim for children to feel safe, stimulated and happy in the nursery and to feel secure and comfortable with all staff. We also want parents to have confidence in both their children's continued well-being and their role as active partners, with the child being able to benefit from what the nursery has to offer.

Staff will have an awareness of the different stages of attachment and use this knowledge to support children and families settling in to the nursery.

We aim to support parents and other carers to help their children settle quickly and easily by giving consideration to the individual needs and circumstances of every child and their families.

The nursery staff will work in partnership with parents to settle their child into the nursery environment by:

- Providing parents with relevant information regarding the policies and procedures of the nursery
- Encouraging the parents and children to visit the nursery during the weeks before an admission is planned.
- Planning settling in visits and introductory sessions (lasting approximately 1-2 hours). These will be provided free of charge over a one or two week period, dependent on individual needs, age and stage of development
- Welcoming parents to stay with their child during the first few weeks until the child feels settled and the parents feel comfortable about leaving their child. Settling in visits and introductory sessions are key to a smooth transition and to ensure good communication and information sharing between staff and parents
- Reassuring parents whose children seem to be taking a long time settling in to the nursery and develop a plan with them
- Encouraging parents, where appropriate, to separate themselves from their children for brief periods at first, gradually building up to longer absences
- Respecting the circumstances of all families, including those who are unable to stay for long periods of time in the nursery and reassure them of their child's progress towards settling in
- Not taking a child on an outing from the nursery until he/she is completely settled.

Suitable Clothing

Children have the best fun when they are doing messy work. We will always try to make sure that they wear aprons but accidents do happen so please dress your child in suitable clothing and provide the nursery with at least two changes of clothing, which can be left in a bag on your child's peg. Please also make sure that your child has suitable outdoor clothing for outdoor play or in case a trip has been planned. If you wish your child to wear slippers or soft shoes please leave them in the shoe boxes provided. It would be appreciated if you could print your child's name on all footwear to avoid confusion, as often children come to nursery with the same shoes, slippers or wellies.

National Care Standards- Being welcomed and valued, Standard 1
A safe environment, Standard 2
Health and Wellbeing, Standard 3
Engaging with children, Standard 4
A caring environment, Standard 7
Confidence in staff, Standard 12

Signature	Position	Review Date