

Settling In Policy

At Whatcombe Farm Nursery we acknowledge that a child's transition into nursery is individual to them and their family. All children are unique and the amount of time that a child takes to settle into Whatcombe Farm Nursery can vary. Therefore, children will be given time to settle in at their own pace, so as to make them feel welcome, safe and confident in a new environment.

Guidance for settling children into Nursery

We appreciate that leaving a child for the first time can be difficult as well as emotional for parents/carers. However, a few simple guidelines will make it easier for the parent/carer, the child and the staff involved.

The key is to settle the child in gradually. The parent/carer might want to begin by bringing their child into the nursery for a shorter session, e.g. one hour. It is useful for parents to stay within the local area so that they can return should the staff feel that this is appropriate. This shorter session allows the child to get used to the staff and the new environment. It is also an opportunity for the parent to ask any further questions they may have.

Whatcombe Farm Nursery work together with our parents to build up session lengths gradually where this is helpful. We base this on the family's needs and how well the sessions go.

It is important that parents/carers allow themselves plenty of time to settle their child before returning to work – being 'under pressure' will exacerbate any tension.

Parents/carers should be encouraged to ring the nursery when they have arrived at work or returned home to reassure themselves that their child has settled down happily. Our on-line Learning Journal, Tapestry, will enable staff to send photos /videos of your child during their time at nursery to show how they are settling in. This can prove invaluable in helping parents/carers to feel happier about leaving their child at the nursery especially early on in the settling in process.

If it seems that a child is taking a long time to settle in, this will be discussed with their parents/carers at the earliest opportunity. Likewise, if a parent/carer feels that there is a problem during the settling in period, they should raise this with their key person or the management team.

Staff will always be available to discuss any concerns or other issues with parents/carers regarding their child and their attendance at Whatcombe Farm Nursery. We operate an open-door policy and the management team will endeavour to be available to speak with you should you have any immediate concerns/questions. If this is not the case an appointment will be made at a more convenient time for both parties.

This Policy links to the Safeguarding & Welfare Requirements:


Key Person : 3.26

Information for Parents & Carers : 3.72

This Policy Links to the EYFS overarching principles:

Positive Relationships : 2.2 Parents as Partners

2.4 Key Person

Nursery Managing Director's name	Lucy Whitehead
Nursery Managing Director's signature	
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This policy is due for review on the following date	September 2020