



Settling in Policy

We recognise that each child is unique and has different needs and acknowledge that the transition from home to nursery will be a different experience for every child. Some children will appear confident and others will be extremely anxious. We aim to provide an atmosphere where each child feels welcome, valued and engaged within the environment and with practitioners; where parents have confidence in both their children's well being and their role as active partners in their child's nursery experience.

Aim

- To make the environment a welcoming place where children settle quickly and easily because consideration has been given to the individual needs and circumstances of children and their families.
- To work in partnership with the family to support the child in the transition from home and family, into the new community of the nursery.
- To nurture a strong attachment with practitioners in Bristol Children's Playhouse to enable the child to become confident in their new surroundings.
- To work in partnership with parents support the child with any difficulties or challenges.

Methods

- We undertake a home visit by the child's key person and another member of staff. We feel that these are essential as we are able to meet the child in their home environment where they will hopefully feel safe and confident, they will then be able to link seeing our practitioners in their home with their new nursery. It also helps us to be able to gain a lot of information about the family and any struggles they might be facing.
- When a child starts to attend, we work with parents to decide on the best way to help the child to settle in. This will include a number of days when parents will stay for sessions with their child. We work with parents to identify when will be the right time for children to spend the first session alone. This will be initially be for 1 hour and parents will be asked to remain close by and contactable
- We allocate a key person to each child and family, before they start to attend, bearing in mind the sessions chosen.
- We use home visits and the first session at which a child attends to explain and complete registration records with parents.
- During the term that the child has settled in to nursery, we will complete a starting points review. A starting points meeting will be arranged with parents.
- During this time and in the review, we will identify in concerns about the child's development and discuss with our SENDCO who will plan interventions if necessary.