



Registered Charity Number - 1072298

SETTLING INTO PRE-SCHOOL **POLICY AND PRACTICE**

We want children to feel safe and happy in the absence of their parents, to recognise other adults as a source of authority, help and friendship and to be able to share with their parents afterwards the new learning experiences enjoyed in the pre-school.

In order to accomplish this, we will:-

1. Encourage parents to visit the pre-school with their children during the weeks before an admission is planned.
2. Make clear to families from the outset that they will be supported in the pre-school for as long as it takes to settle their child there.
3. Reassure parents whose children seem to be taking a long time to settle into pre-school.
4. Introduce new families into the group on a staggered basis, for example two new children a day for a week, rather than 10 children all at once.
5. Encourage parents, where appropriate, to separate from their children for brief periods at first, gradually building up to longer absences.

Children cannot play or learn successfully if they are anxious or unhappy. Our settling in procedures aim to help parents to help their children to feel comfortable in the pre-school, to benefit what it has to offer and to be confident that their parents will return at the end of the session.

The policy was reviewed on 11 November 2013

Next review date: November 2014

Signed: