

## **LITTLE HEATH NURSERY PLAYGROUP**

Parish Hall, Thornton Road

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**Telephone: 07737 857 990**

### **Settling in Policy and Practice**

Settling in period is the time before the child joins the nursery. During this time they can visit with their parents and stay for a while in order to get to familiarize with the environment and the nursery staff. Hopefully by the time the child starts nursery, he/she will be quite settled and feel confident within their new environment.

As a matter of policy, we do encourage parents and children to visit us on a number of occasions. Depending on your child we suggest to stay with her/him so you can talk to staff about routines and anything else you would like to know. On the second visit, we suggest leaving your child for a short time, or if your child is settled a little longer possibly over snack time so they can experience eating in a group. Some children may need more; some children are settled after 1 or 2 visits.

During the visits we show the child where the toilets are, where to hang their coats and he/she will be encourage to join into the activities. They can start to build their relationships with their keyworker and other staff members.

In the settling in form parents are asked to provide us with information regarding the likes and dislikes of their child. This helps us to make the settling into the nursery as easy as it can be. It is a good idea to include information about any eating, sleeping habits, words that a child uses for certain things or actions, the name of their comforter etc.

We want children to feel safe and happy in the absence of their parents, It's important that they recognize other adults as a source of help, friend. Children cannot play or learn successfully if they are anxious and unhappy. Our aim is to help parents to help their children to feel comfortable in the Nursery, to benefit from what our setting has to offer.

## Settling In Policy and Procedure

In order to accomplish this, we will do the following:

- Encourage parents to visit the nursery with their child during the weeks before the admission planned.
- Make it clear to families from the beginning that they will be supported in the Nursery and all through the settling in process too as long as it may take.
- Re-assure parents whose child seem to be taking a longer time settling into the Nursery.
- Introduce new families into the group on a staggered basis.
- Encourage parents to separate, where appropriate from their child for brief periods at first, gradually building up to longer absences.

Most importantly, we are here to support the child and the parents at this very important milestone at the life of a child. We are working in partnership with the parents to make settling into the nursery as easy as it can be. The happiness of the child is paramount.

