

## **Settling in Policy**

To make sure that all children at Bunnies feel safe, secure and comfortable with staff, we settle children into preschool on a unique child basis. We address each child's and family's needs individually.

Children are required to attend a minimum of two sessions per week. For the first few sessions children will stay for shorter periods of time and parents/carers will be requested to be close by in case staff feel the child needs further reassurance from them. The time spent in sessions and the number of sessions per week will be gradually increased at a pace suitable for the child's well-being and happiness. This is explained to parents in the pre-admission parent pack.

Home visits are requested as staff feel it is beneficial to the child to have already started to build relationships prior to entering preschool, and it enables a quick assessment of child's current language. Home visits are not compulsory. Where it is not possible to do home visit at home, staff will ask for a brief meeting with parents and carers to gain certain further information before your child starts to aid staff in their understanding of your child and their home dynamics.

Staff may request that you bring a transition object/soft comforter (no dummies) from home to assist your child. On the child's first session, provision will be made for the key worker to spend time welcoming the child and assisting them in choosing toys, activities and fully supporting them in this transition time. Parents support may be requested for a little time at the start of the first few sessions. Staff will use their professional judgements to support parents in the appropriate time of when to withdraw/say goodbye at the door to help their child to settle and enjoy the session. This provides welcoming, caring environment where children settle quickly and where consideration is given to the child's individual needs and the parent's wishes.