

Little Frogs Pre-School

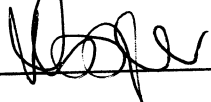
As parents and as early years practitioners, we can take steps to ensure that the transition into the early years setting goes as smoothly as possible. Research shows that when the settling in period is positive for the child, it can not only impact on their happiness throughout their time at the early years setting but also on how the child views future transitions.

Children who have a positive start to their new environment are more likely to feel comfortable, relaxed and valued, feel good about themselves as learners and have a sense of belonging to the pre-school community. Most children settle in without too many concerns but there are some children who need more time to develop trust.

We aim to make Little Frogs Pre School 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.

Children need to feel safe, stimulated and happy to develop and grow socially, emotionally and physically. They need to feel secure and comfortable with the practitioners at Little Frogs Pre School. We also want parents to have confidence in both their children's well being and their role as active partners within the Pre-school. Children feel a sense of belonging in the setting when their parents are also involved in it.

This Policy and the provision's practices will be reviewed periodically and kept up to date in accordance with any changes in legislation.

Policy Approved By:  Date: 28/4/15

(On Behalf of the Management Committee of Little Frogs Pre-School)

Methods

- Before a child starts to attend the Pre-school, we use a variety of ways to provide the child's parents/carers with information. These include written information (including our prospectus and policies), an invitation to visit the Pre-school for a tour of the premises and to attend part or whole of a session with their child.
- Parents are provided with a 'Learning Journey' page to write down information regarding their child's needs and special instruction to comfort the child should they become distressed. When a child starts to attend, we work with the child's parents/carers to decide on the best way to help the child to settle into the Pre-school.
- Your child is allocated a Key Person before your child begins Little Frogs Pre School. A Key Person has special responsibilities for working with a small number of children, giving them the reassurance to feel safe and cared for and building relationships with their parents. A Key Person helps the child to become familiar with the setting and to feel confident and safe within it.
- Introductory visits can be arranged with the family to enable the child to become more familiar with the setting and practitioners while having the support of their parent /carer who stays with them.
- When a child starts to attend we explain the settling in process and jointly decide on the best way to help the child to settle into the setting.
- When parents leave, we ask them to say goodbye to their child and explain that they will be coming back, and when.
- We recognise that some children will settle more readily than others but that some children who appear to settle rapidly are not ready to be left, so we expect that the parent will honour the commitment to work with the Key person.
- We reserve the right not to accept a child into the setting without a parent or carer if the child finds it distressing to be left.
- We reserve the right to ask Parents to return within short periods of time and build up the length of stay to aid settling in.
- Within the first few weeks of starting, we discuss the Early Years Foundation Stage and explain our record keeping system.