

Settling in Policy and Practice

At Abacus pre-school we want the children to feel safe and happy in the absence of their parents/carers. For them to be able to recognise other adults as a source of authority, help and friendship and to be able to share with their parents/carers the new learning experiences enjoyed whilst at Abacus.

We also feel that 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 whilst at Abacus, to benefit from what we have to offer and to be confident that their parents/carers will return at the end of their session.

In order to accomplish this, we will:

- Encourage parents/carers to visit the pre-school with their children during the weeks before admission is planned.
- Introduce flexible admission procedures, if appropriate, to meet the needs of individual families and children. Children to stay and play with an adult and then the adult will leave for a short period. Gradually lengthening the time the child is left depending on each child. All children may need settling in differently and we will work with the family to achieve this.
- 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 with us.
- Reassure parents whose children seem to be taking a long time settling into the pre-school environment.
- Encourage parents, where appropriate, to separate from their child for brief periods at first, gradually building up to longer absences. This will work for both Parent / carers and the child.

This policy will be reviewed annually.

Signed:

Position: Chair

Date:



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