

BRANSTON PRE-SCHOOL CENTRE

SETTLING IN POLICY

Children develop in individual ways and at varying rates and that is why at Branston Pre-School we offer a settling in procedure that is flexible to meet those needs.

Friendships and relationships are an important part of children's development. At Branston Pre-School every interaction is based on caring professional relationships and respectful acknowledgement of the feelings of children and their families.

We are aware that many factors will influence children's and families sociability. They may feel tired, stressed, or trying to communicate in more than one language.

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 Branston Pre-School. We also want parents to have confidence in both their children's wellbeing 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.

We aim to make Branston Pre-School a warm welcoming environment where children settle quickly and easily because consideration has been given to the individual needs and circumstances of children and their families.

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, an invitation to visit the Pre-School for an open afternoon session with their child and a home visit.
- Parents complete, usually on the home visit an 'all about me', starting points form whilst referring to 'what to expect when booklet'. This includes 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 keyworker group before your child begins Branston Pre-School. A keyworker 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 Keyworker helps the child to become familiar with the setting and to feel confident and safe within it.
- Additional 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.
- On our home visits, we discuss the Early Years Foundation Stage and explain our record keeping system.