

Settling In Policy

Principle

Settling in is an interim stage in the transition between home and the outside world. Children's whole future attitude to new experiences could be affected by how this situation is managed. Due care and attention must be paid to child's need for time to settle in to any new setting. *Early Years the Organisation for Young Children.*

Policy

At Rainbow Stop Playgroup we aim to ensure that children feel safe and secure in the absence of their parents. The Playgroup will therefore endeavour to make the settling in process a positive experience for children and will work closely in partnership with parents to ensure this is achieved. We recognise that in some cases there may be particular difficulties experienced during the settling in period. All children are individuals and we plan to meet their individual needs and resolve any difficulties quickly and smoothly.

Procedure

In order to accomplish this we will ensure that:

- Prior to enrolment there has been an exchange of information with parents.
- Optional home visits may be arranged to allow the Playgroup Leader to gain more insight into a child's background and needs.
- Parents and their children are invited to visit the Playgroup before admission to familiarise themselves with the group setting.
- Parents are encouraged to provide playgroup staff with information on their child's likes/dislikes and interests.
- The Playgroup offer a staggered settling in period.
- Parents and their children are encouraged to get to know their keyworker.
- Staff will provide support and encouragement to parents during the settling in period should the transition be difficult.
- Parents are encouraged to separate from their child for brief periods at first gradually building up to a larger absence.