



SETTLING IN PRE-SCHOOL POLICY

Woodcroft Pre-School and Wrap Around Care want children to feel safe and happy in the absence of their parents/carers, to recognise other adults as a source of authority, help and friendship. We hope they would then be able to share with their parents the new learning experiences enjoyed in Pre-School. We also want parents/ carers to feel welcome and involved from the beginning.

In order to accomplish this, we aim to create a partnership with parents/ carers in the following ways:

- We offer stay and play sessions free of charge. This is where the parent/ carer stays with their child for 1 hour per day. This allows the child to familiarise themselves with the setting and bond with key carers.
 - By creating opportunities for the exchange of information, using among other resources a copy of the Pre-School's prospectus and a share approach to the admissions form.
 - By ensuring plentiful opportunities for parents/ carers to inform the Pre-School about their children's current achievements and interests.
 - By encouraging parents/ carers to visit the Pre-School with their children during the weeks before admission is planned.
 - By introducing flexible admission procedures, if appropriate, to meet the needs of individual families and children.
 - By making clear to families from the outset that they will be welcome and supported in the Pre-School for as long as it takes to settle their child there.
 - By introducing new families into the group on a staggered basis, if possible.
 - By encouraging parents/ carers, where appropriate, to separate from their children for brief periods at first, gradually building up to longer absences.
 - Children cannot play or learn successfully if they are anxious and unhappy. Our setting procedures aim to help parents/ carers and children to feel comfortable in the Pre-School, and to ensure that the children benefit from what the group has to offer and feel confident that their parents/ carers will return at the end of the session.
 - Offering support for the children by having either a photo of their family in their draw to look at throughout the day, an item that reminds them of home for example blanket or a cuddly toy that the child has a strong attachment with. We endeavour to support the families with new ideas to help the child settle.
- This policy adopted October 2019, signed

Director

Company Secretary

Woodcroft Pre-School and Wrap Around Care

