



Great Missenden Pre-School **Preschool Settling In Policy**

At Great Missenden, we believe that a positive experience of settling in is vital to children's future well-being as it is key to their later ability to cope with changes. We believe that building open relationships between staff and children, and staff and parents is essential for successful separation to take place. We aim to build strong relationships with children and parents to enhance their experience of settling in.

Aims

At Great Missenden, we aim to:

- Support parents to settle in as well as the children.
- Develop positive relationships with parents in order that they trust us
- Ask parents about their child's previous experiences of settling in
- Encourage parents to be involved in the settling in process
- Offer children a welcoming setting with developmentally appropriate activities
- Offer appropriate physical contact to children to help them settle in
- Assign a Key Person within the setting to each child (as required by the EYFS statutory framework)

Induction Visits

Ordinarily, children are invited to visit the Pre-school for an Induction visit in the term before the child is due to start, where they have the opportunity to meet the class teacher and support staff, and become familiar with the routines. However, due to the current circumstances we are unable to offer this in the summer term. We will be in touch to advise how best we can settle your children in, so that they are happy and comfortable. We have a virtual tour in the admissions brochure that accompanies this form which we hope will help the children so they can see what it looks like and what to expect.

Many children will separate from parents quite happily, and parents are encouraged to leave their child to settle in independently if possible. All Preschool staff will play alongside new children, supporting them as necessary, and will of course telephone the parent and ask them to return to their child if they are upset and have not settled at an activity.

We ask that you provide a named bag with a change of clothes, and nappies/pull ups if required, as well as a comfort toy for your child.

The First Day

On the first official day of Preschool most children are eager to return after their induction visit, and will come in ready to join in with play activities. It is normal for some children to be upset for a few minutes, so parents are welcome to stay for the first part of the day as the children become more familiar with the Preschool environment.