



Early Learning and Childcare Centre

SETTLING IN POLICY

Ferryfield recognises that due care and attention must be given to the parents / carers and child's need for time to settle into the service, and aims to work in partnership with all parties to assist in this process.

Settling in is an important stage of the transition between the home and childcare, Ferryfield aims to make this transition as smooth as possible by:

- Encouraging parents to bring their children for as many visits as they require.
- Arranging Pre-start visits to Ferryfield to allow parents, carers and children to familiarise themselves with the environment and the staff.
- Offering a warm and welcoming environment, ensuring that each child feels included, secure and valued.
- Sensitively dealing with parents / carers readiness to leave the child and the child's willingness to be left.
- Agreeing with parents / carers a strategy to enable a smooth transition that is comfortable to both child and adult.
- Providing activities and experiences that are familiar to the child.
- Providing feedback to parents / carers about how the child is coping in Ferryfield.

When a child does not settle and is unhappy or distressed being in the Ferryfield, staff will work with parents to try to find the reason for, and a solution to this.

As a last resort, it may be suggested that the child be removed from Ferryfield to try again at a later date, although experience suggests that perseverance is the best course of action and most children will settle (a small number of children can take a long time to settle) – this separation experience sets them up as confident individuals for future life experiences and only benefits the child in the long run, despite how it makes us parents feel in the short term.

Adopted by the Committee

Date

August 2016