

Cherrytree Nursery School Ltd

Setting Procedures (Settling In / Observations etc)

Cherrytree Nursery School has an adaptable settling in policy to enable children to get used to routines away from their parents / main carers. We recommend that the parent / carer visit the school with their child prior to starting at Nursery, so that the child is aware that their parent/ carer approve of the Nursery. The parent / carer is able to ask any questions at this time and clarify any points they are unsure of.

We have a flexible system, which allows children new to the Nursery to attend two and a half, four or six hours a day. Two year olds are normally recommended to attend two sessions of two and a half or four hours each, split over the week (e.g. Monday/ Thursday, Tuesday/Friday, Monday/Wednesday etc.) Three and four year olds are usually capable of attending for the full six hours after an initial settling in period, usually a half term.

Most children settle very quickly (within the first two to three weeks) and feel safe and secure in the knowledge that their carer will return at the specified time (e.g. before lunch, after lunch etc). The routine we have to the day ensures that the child knows what comes next and they become confident with that routine.

We expect some reaction (e.g. crying, temper tantrums etc) either during the first couple of weeks, or after the initial few weeks have passed. This is the child's way of dealing with a major change in their life and is normal behaviour. The reaction becomes less over a period of days / weeks and usually only lasts for a few minutes at the beginning of the day.

If a child is unsettled for the majority of the time he / she is with us, we will suggest a settling-in programme to the parent / carer, designed to suit the child. This may involve shorter sessions, more frequent sessions or a combination of both. Increased frequency of attendance will normally settle a child quickly as he / she becomes familiar with the Nursery and routines over a shorter period of time. He / she can then return to attending the days originally required.

In order for you to have a record of your child's achievements we will make regular observations on your child whilst they are at Nursery. The observations will be used as a basis for future planning in order to extend your child's learning and understanding of the world around them. Achievements with Montessori projects will also be recorded. Both of these records will form the basis of a report to be passed onto your child's next setting, whether that is another Nursery or Primary School.