



Washwood Heath
Nursery School
A Birmingham Children's Centre

Settling in Day Care

We aim to ensure your child's introduction to our setting is as stress free as possible. Once a place has been offered, we aim to achieve this by inviting you and your child to visit the nursery prior to your child's official start date. This helps to familiarise your child with the nursery, the nursery staff and the other children.

A child who is tense or unhappy will not be able to play or learn properly, so it is important for parents/carers and staff to work together to help the child feel confident and secure in the group. This takes longer for some children and parents/carers should not feel worried if their child takes a while to settle. You must be prepared to accept that it may take some time for your child to adjust to the nursery but very few children fail to settle eventually. We find that staying with your child and then leaving him/her for short periods eases the separation process. Please remember, the more your child comes and experiences the activities on offer and sees you interacting with the staff, the more settled s/he will feel. To see our recommended programme to introduce your child to life at the nursery, please refer to the Settling-in Procedure in the Procedures section of this document.

In the unlikely event that your child does not seem to settle at the nursery we will review the situation with you and discuss the options, including termination of the contract. Such termination is at the sole discretion of the Nursery Manager.

- Day 1: 10am - 11am We suggest that you stay with your child and spend an hour together in the nursery setting. This will normally be enough for your child's first day.
- Day 2: 10am - 11.30am You will be invited to accompany your child for one and a half hours in the appropriate room. All being well, you will be encouraged to leave your child for half an hour during this time to see how well they manage on their own.
- Day 3: 10am - lunch By day three your child may be ready to stay by him/herself for the whole of the morning session and be collected after lunch. Do not be concerned if this is not the case: some children arrive on Day 1 as if they have been coming to the nursery for years but others will take a little longer to settle in.
- Day 4: 10am-sleep time We recommend that your child stays by him/herself until after sleep time.
- Day 5: 10am-tea time We recommend that your child stays by him/herself until after tea.