**Nursery Settling in Policy**

**Purpose of policy**

To work with and support parents to help children feel comfortable at the setting, to benefit from what it has to offer, and for children to be confident that their parents will return at the end of the session.

We recognise that children find it difficult to engage if their well-being is low, our aim is to support children to be strong and independent from a secure base of loving relationships with parents and key people.

**In order to achieve this we will:**

* Encourage parents to visit the setting with their children before the start date. Extended visits will be organised where appropriate.
* Introduce a flexible admission procedure, if appropriate, to meet the needs of individual families and children
* Complete an ‘All About Me’ with parents where we can discuss their child’s background, individual needs and interests.
* Arrange for the key person to visit the family at home if necessary in order to gain more insight into the child’s needs and interests, and build relationships.
* Make clear to families from the outset that they will be supported for as long as it takes to settle their child.
* Work in partnership with parents whose children take a little longer to settle in
* Where appropriate, encourage parents to separate from their children for brief periods at first, gradually building up longer absences.

Our CCTV system provides the opportunity for parents to watch their child settle before they leave the setting, and parents are welcome to do this for as long as they feel necessary. Parents are also welcome to ring the nursery to check how their child is settling on 01326 573338.

Reviewed April 2020