

SETTLING IN - PREPARING YOUR CHILD FOR NURSERY

■ **Get to know other children in Nursery**

Talk to your child about getting to know more children and making new friends. Talk about sharing and taking turns.

■ **Be enthusiastic about Nursery & involve your child in preparing for Nursery**

Your child will be influenced by your attitude, if you are positive about Nursery, your child will be too.

■ **Talk to your child about what to expect at Nursery**

Answer any questions they might have, and talk to them about staff, other children, their day am/pm session and what they will be doing before/after the session.

■ **Encourage your child to be independent and to express their needs verbally**

e.g. dressing, tidying up toys and belongings, self-help skills (toilet, washing hands, blowing nose) feelings and emotions.

■ **Be honest with your child**

Sometimes parents think that by 'slipping away' they are helping their child to settle in, however, children need to be reassured as to their parent's movements in order to feel confident and secure. Farewells should always be made.

■ **Allow plenty of time**

Punctuality in coming to and from Nursery is essential in order for the child to feel settled and secure.

■ **Be prepared for changes in your child**

Your child is likely to be feeling a mixture of emotions and tiredness. Take time to talk to them about their day, and to reassure them.

■ **Regular attendance enables your child to become used to the routines and faces at Nursery.**

One of the Prime areas of learning is 'Communication and Language'. It is important for you to talk to your child, ask them questions helping them think about different topics, read stories and talk about the pictures, sing songs and nursery rhymes.

Here are some nursery rhymes for you to sing with your child.

Baa baa black sheep, have you any wool?
Yes sir, yes sir, three bags full!
One for the master, one for the dame,
And one for the little boy who lives down the lane.

Hey diddle diddle, the cat and the fiddle,
The cow jumped over the moon.
The little dog laughed to see such fun
And the dish ran away with the spoon!

You can find the words to more rhymes following the link below.

<http://www.literacytrust.org.uk/songs?gclid=CMv07fjOlbgCFZlPtAodrisAFw>

You can watch and sing along to nursery rhymes with your child on the following link.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P1H6iODKUsY&safe=active>

Don't forget, talking with your child is the way they learn to communicate with others.