

# Seedling Nursery

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## Transition policy

At Seedling Nursery we understand that starting nursery, moving from one room to another, changing settings or starting school is an exciting time for children, but can also be a challenging and anxious time for both children and their parents/carers. We are committed to putting the needs of the child first whilst working with each other, parents/carers and other professionals to make transitions as smooth as possible for all concerned.

*“Transition should be seen as a process, not an event and should be planned for and discussed with children and parents” (EYFS)*

### Settling in

We realise having your child start nursery can be an anxious and scary time so we aim to make the settling in process the most relaxed and smooth transition as possible.

We recommend doing as many “settling sessions” with your child before the child’s start date. Your first session will be a “stay and play” session where you would stay in the room with your child, get to know the room routine and the members of staff.

This is also a good time to get to know your child’s key person and go over any specific needs for your child, basic home routines, sleep time, feed time, likes/dislikes etc.

For your second session we would recommend you leave the child in the room and pop out for a cup of tea, so while staying on the premises should you feel you need to ask any more questions, we are allowing your child to grow in confidence and form a bond with their key person and other carers within the room.

We would also be happy to accommodate a couple of half day sessions before starting a full day if you wish.

Minimising disruption to their home routines, taking into consideration those children already in the setting, will help new children settle in comfortably and will give them security. To encourage a smooth transition, simple, exciting, stimulation, fun activities will be provided.

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. Please remember, the more your child comes and experiences the activities on offer and sees you interacting with the staff, the more settled they will feel.

### Transition between each room

Although children moving from Seeds room to Buds room and onto Petals room have usually been with us at Seedling for some time, we still see this as an important transition for them and feel that it is important that this is planned and carried out in a way that meets the needs of each individual child.

The same process as “settling sessions” when children start nursery will occur when children move on to the next room, the child will have “hour” sessions leading up to the half day sessions in their new room. Once we



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feel the child is settled and confident in their new room and has formed lovely and strong relationships we will arrange a parents meeting to introduce the parents to the new key person and show them around the room.

## School Transitions

The move from nursery/pre-school to primary school is a massive step for both the children and their parents/carers. On finding out from parents which school their child will be attending, either the pre-school room leader or individual key practitioners will contact the schools to arrange a meeting. This would involve the child's new teacher coming into the setting and meeting the children in their nursery environment and getting to know them.

We also include the discussion of moving to primary school within our daily circle time and get the children involved in a variety of school related activities.

Each child's key practitioner will also complete a detailed transition form including all the areas in which the child has met and completed each area of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) and ensure this form along with an up to date progress report of the child is sent off to the reception teacher.

This policy was last updated	Signed on behalf of the nursery	Date for review
May 2024		May 2025

Next steps for all children moving up

- Increasing children's independent skills throughout the day
- Snack time - Encourage the children to peel own fruit with support if needed
- Pouring own drink - drinking out of a cup without spilling it
- Getting their shoes, putting them on, finding their own coat, putting socks and slippers on.
- 3 circle times - children to be able to sit for 10-15 mins
- Following instructions and having good listening
- Putting away toys - supporting tidy up time
- Getting the children to wipe their own noses, with support if needed.
- Meal times - Waiting for their names to be called to put away plates/bowls etc.
- Children having access to pens for early writing, felt tips etc, knowing to put the lids back on
- Children to use the drop off box to put things in from home
- No dummies at nap time
- Wearing pull ups once in Buds room
- Children will use the drop off box for comforters
- Spending sessions in Buds room for 2-3 weeks
- Independent story time before nap time

