

Settling your child



At Hillfields Nursery School we invest a lot of time to settle your child with us. For at least the first half term be prepared to be near nursery as we build up your child's time with us.

Why?

We need to build relationships with you and your child to create a safe learning environment for your child to develop.

Your child does not know us.

If this is your first child you may not know us.

From experience we find that if we can get the settling process right for your child when they begin their learning journey at Hillfields Nursery School it supports their transition through the nursery school and into primary school.

How?

You will begin with 4 x 1 hour play sessions, or 2 if they are older, where you and your child will be invited in, to experience the environment and meet the staff.

As your child becomes confident in the environment the staff will ask you to move away from your child but stay in the room.

Our experienced staff will then build a personalized settling plan reacting to each child's needs.

Your child will have their own key person who will support you and your child through the settling process.

The first steps in the settling plan

Your child has to learn that when you leave them at nursery you will come back and when you do come back it is time to go home.

The first time the staff ask you to leave your child it will be for 1 minute. This will then increase as your child is ready.

It is important that when you leave the room your child cannot see you. In reception, we have sofas where you can stay when the time is short.

You may hear crying. It is important that if you hear upset children you stay away from the door. It is quite natural when they first separate from you. The staff will not allow them to get into a distressed state they will come and get you early if they need to.

Home Visit

The home visit supports, greatly, with settling. It is the first step to building relationships and finding out about you and your child.

What you can do before your child starts nursery?

Access Hillfields Family Hub's Stay and Play sessions.