



Supporting Transitions

Children experience many transitions in the Early Years and practitioners are sensitive to the difficulties children may have whilst going through these transitions.

Some examples of transitions that young children and babies may experience are:

- Starting our setting.
- Moving between different rooms within the nursery.
- Starting school or moving nurseries.
- Family breakdowns.
- New siblings.
- Moving home.
- Death of a family member.
- Death of a family pet.

Practitioners are trained to observe their key children and will be sensitive to any changes in their behaviour and personality. We respectfully ask that parents/carers inform us of any changes in the home environment that may impact on their child, so practitioners can be aware of the reasons behind any potential changes in the child's behaviour.

Supporting Transitions in the Nursery

Sunnydale Nursery Ltd will support all children in the nursery with any transitions they may encounter. If the transition relates to the child starting at the nursery, we will follow our Admissions and Settling in Policies. If the transition is due to occur in the nursery, e.g. room changes, the nursery will fully support the child through this process in the following ways:

Moving Room Procedure- dates must be given to the Nursery Manager of birthdays by Room Leaders. Slips given to parents, transitions catered to meet the needs of the individual child.

- When a child is due to move rooms (due to age and stage readiness) we will work with the parents/carers to ensure this is a seamless process in which the child and parents/carers are fully supported at all stages.
- The child will spend a series of short sessions in their new room prior to the permanent move, to enable them to feel comfortable in their new surroundings.
- The child's Key Person will always go with the child on these initial visits to enable a familiar person to be present and allow time for the child to settle.
- Wherever possible groups, of friends will be moved together to enable these friendships to be kept intact and support the children with the peers they know.
- Parents/carers will be kept informed of all visits and the outcomes of these sessions e.g. through photographs, discussions and observations.
- Only when the child has settled in through these "taster" sessions will the permanent room move take place. If a child requires more support, this will be



discussed between the current and the next Key Person, parent/carer and the Nursery Manager.

- The current Key Person will work with the child's new Key Person, going through the child's development and 'All About Me' to ensure necessary information is passed on.

Starting School

Starting school is a huge transition and Sunnydale Nursery Ltd will do all it can to facilitate a smooth move. We have a variety of methods that support this:

- Sunnydale Nursery Ltd will provide a variety of resources that relate to the school, e.g. uniform to dress up in, book bags, photographs of local schools that the children may attend and group times that will support the transition. This will help the children to become familiar with this new concept and will support transition.
- Sunnydale Nursery Ltd will invite school representatives into the nursery to introduce them to the children and for them to get to know the children.
- The Key Person will initiate conversations with their key children, who are due to move to school, about the school and discuss what they think may be different and that may be the same. They will talk through any concerns the child may have and initiate activities or group discussions relating to any issues enabling these to be overcome.
- Sunnydale Nursery Ltd will ensure a Transition Document is produced on each child starting school to enable teachers to have a good understanding of each individual child. This will include their interests, strengths, and level of understanding and development in key areas. This will support continuity of care and early learning.
- Where appropriate, children due to move onto school will join in with school pick ups at the school they will be attending, to familiarise themselves with the school setting.
- Where appropriate, Sunnydale Nursery Ltd will arrange and accompany the child on their visit to school to support them in the change. This is crucial where a delayed or deferred start is planned.

Family Breakdowns

When parents/carers separate, it can be a difficult situation for all concerned. Sunnydale Nursery Ltd understands that emotions run high. Please refer to our Separated Families Policy, which shows how Sunnydale Nursery Ltd will act in the best interest of the child.

Moving Home and New Siblings

These are normally two events that parent/carers will have advance notice of, and we ask that parents/carers inform us about these events so we can support the child to be ready for this. We will spend time talking to the child and providing activities and resources that may help the child to express any worries they may have, e.g. through



role play, stories, puppets, jigsaws and discussions. Parents/carers may also consider placing their child into nursery for additional sessions during these events to provide them with consistency and time away from the changes occurring.

Bereavement

Sunnydale Nursery Ltd have produced a separate policy on bereavement as this can be an extremely difficult time for children and their families.

If parents/carers feel that their child requires additional support because of any changes in their life, we ask that you speak to your child's Key Person or the Nursery Manager, to enable this support to be put into place.

The policy was adopted on:	May 2024
Date disseminated to staff:	May 2024
Date for review:	May 2025