

Bereavement Policy

Children and their families who attend our setting may experience grief or loss of close family members or friends whilst at Sunnydale Nursery Ltd. We understand that this is not only a difficult time for families but it may also be confusing time for young children, especially if they have little or no understanding of why their Parents/Carers are upset and why a certain person may no longer be around.

We aim to support both the child and their family and will adapt the following procedure to suit their individual wants and needs:

- We ask if there is loss of a family member or close friend that Parents/Carers inform the setting as soon as they feel able to. This will enable us to support both the child and their family member wherever we can and help us to understand potential change in behaviour of a child who may be grieving themselves.
- The Key Person and/or the Nursery Deputy/Manager will talk with the family to ascertain what support is required from the setting. This may be an informal discussion or a meeting away from the child to help calm a potentially upsetting situation. This will be dependent on the preference of the family.
- The setting will be flexible wherever possible to adapt the sessions to what the child and family may need during this time.
- The death of family pets is also an area that children and their families may need support with. We will follow the above procedure wherever it is appropriate to support the child to understand their loss and support their emotions through this time.

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