



Liskeard Child Development Centre
Sunshine Room

15. Supporting transitions

Children experience many transitions in their early years and nursery staff 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 at the CDC nursery.
- Moving between different rooms within the CDC nursery.
- Starting school or moving nurseries.
- Family breakdowns.
- New siblings.
- Moving home.
- Death of a family member.
- Death of a family pet.

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

Supporting transitions in the CDC nursery

The nursery will support all children in the nursery with any transitions they may be encountering. If the transition relates to the child starting at the CDC nursery we will follow our settling in policy. If the transition is due to occur at the CDC nursery, e.g. session changes (this is a rare occurrence), the nursery will fully support the child through this process in the following ways:

Moving sessions procedure

Due to the CDC placement being a maximum of three terms we give a lot of thought to the class placement of the child prior to them starting to ensure they are in the best

class group for them. This will take into account parental choice of sessions. A change of session is therefore rare but would be made if parents needed to change sessions from afternoon to morning or due to changes in their link setting sessions, or it was felt that the child was unsettled within a group.

- We will work with the parents to ensure this is a seamless process in which the child is fully supported at all stages.
- The child will spend short sessions in their new group prior to the permanent move to enable them to feel comfortable in their new surroundings.
- Parents will be kept informed of the outcomes of these sessions e.g. through photographs, discussions or diary entries.
- Only when the child has settled in through these 'taster' sessions will the permanent move take place. If a child requires more support this will be discussed between the staff, parent and Teacher in Charge to enable this to occur.

Starting school

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

- CDC staff will be able if required to visit schools with the parents when initially choosing a school. The class teacher or Teacher in Charge will be able to tell the parent the schools within the area, (mainstream, Area Resource Bases(ARB) and Special Schools). CDC staff will not make suggestions of best school placement this will be entirely parental choice. We aim to ensure that parents make an informed choice. Parents may wish to use a representative from the Family Information Service(FIS) to accompany them.
- The CDC nursery will invite the school SENCo, Reception Class Teacher and Educational Psychologist to the Early support Team Around the Child meeting within the summer term once a school has been allocated. We will invite school representatives into the CDC nursery so that they can get to know the child and observe intervention support.
- A transition plan will be developed based on parent priorities and the child's needs, this may include visits to the school as part of Learning Together during the summer term, use of photographs to support transition or members of CDC supporting transition visits. Any training that the school require with

regards AAC, use of equipment or medical needs will be planned early to ensure the transition is as smooth as possible.

- Where possible CDC staff may be able to support the initial start of the school year as required.

Family breakdowns

When parents separate it is a difficult situation for all concerned. The nursery understands that emotions run high please refer to the separated families policy which shows how the nursery will act in the best interest of the child.

Moving home and new siblings

These are normally two events that parents will have advance notice of, and we ask that parents let the nursery know 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 that may help the child to act out any worries they have, e.g. through role play, stories and discussions.

Bereavement

The nursery has produced a separate policy on bereavement as this can be a difficult time for children and their families. Nursery will offer support to all concerned should this be required.

If parents feel that their child requires additional support because of any changes in their life, we ask that you speak to the Teacher in Charge and the class teacher to enable this support to be put into place.

Internal use only

This policy was adopted on	
Signed on behalf of the nursery	
Date disseminated to staff	
Date for review	