



General Welfare Requirement: Safeguarding and Promoting Children's Welfare

The provider must take necessary steps to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.

Safeguarding children Transition Policy

At Cherry Blossom Nursery and Preschool Ltd we recognise that young children will experience transition in their early years; some of these planned and some unplanned. We are sensitive to the impact of such changes to children this policy sets out the ways in which we support children through these transitions.

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

- Starting nursery
- Moving between different rooms within the nursery
 - Starting school or moving nurseries
 - Family breakdowns
 - New sibling
 - Moving home
- Death of a family member or close friend
 - Death of a family pet
 - Changes to routine

Procedures

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

- Starting nursery - we recognize that starting nursery may be difficult for some children and their families. We have a settling in policy to support the child and their family. Where possible and if required we will offer a home visit if we felt this would benefit the transition, this allows staff to build a relationship with the family and talk informally about any concerns, routine and support that may benefit the child when arriving at nursery, i.e. interests, communication and language.

- Moving rooms - when a child is ready to move to a different room in the nursery, we follow the process out below with parents to ensure this is a seamless process in which the child is fully supported at all stages. This may include handover meetings between existing and new key persons and parents.
 1. The child will spend short sessions in their new room prior to the permanent move to enable them to feel comfortable in their new surroundings.
 2. The child's key person will accompany them on these visits to enable a familiar person is present at all times.
 3. A new key person will begin a bond with the children and introduce themselves to the parent/carer and family to begin building a relationship. We encourage parents to talk about their new key person at home, i.e. 'we are going to see ... today'
 4. Wherever possible peer groups will be moved together to enable friendships to be kept and support the children by having familiar peer groups.
 5. Parents will be kept informed of all visits and outcomes of these sessions, e.g. through photographs, discussions during feedback and on their online learning journey.
 6. 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 key person, room leader, parent and manager to agree on how this can be done, this may include moving their key person with them on a temporary basis.

Starting school or moving child care provider - starting school is an important transition and some children may feel anxious or distressed. We will do all we can to facilitate a smooth move and minimize and potential stress. This following process relates to children going to school, however, wherever possible, we will adapt this process to support children, moving to another childcare provider.

1. Resources provided such as school uniform to dress up in, books about school, visuals of local primary schools that the children will be attending - supporting the children to become familiar with the new concept and aid transition.
2. We invite school representatives into the nursery to introduce themselves to the children.
3. Where possible, we would invite previous children back into the nursery who have already moved on to school to support the confidence of younger children.
4. When possible, we plan outings and visits to the local schools during nursery hours with their key person. This gives staff opportunity to

talk to children about any concerns, what may be the same or different and give the children to initiate any activity ideas.

5. We provide a comprehensive report on every child starting school to enable teachers to have a good understanding of every child received. This will include their interests, if they are on track of needing support in areas of learning as a reflection of the birth to five matters framework followed in our nursery. Safeguarding files and any additional support and documentation such as 27month checks and Setting Based Support Plans will also be securely transferred to the new setting to ensure the new setting have a good understanding of the child, their background and development. - *Please see information sharing policy.*
- Other early year's providers - where children are attending other early years settings or are cared for by a childminder, we will work with them to share relevant information about children's development. Where a child is brought to nursery or collected from nursery by a child minder we will ensure that key information is being provided to the child's parent by providing the information directly to the parent via telephone, email or the nursery management app - 'family'.
- Family breakdowns - we recognize that when parents separate it can be a difficult situation for all concerned. We have a separated family policy that shows how the nursery will act in the best interest of the child. Family breakdowns may also be a reflection of social work involvement, children being separated from their main carers and becoming a looked after child. We have a looked after child policy highlighting the support we offer for the child.
- Moving home and new sibling - we recognize that both these events may have an impact on a child. Normally, parents will have advance notice of these changes and we ask parents to let us know about these events in order for us to support children with resources, activities, role play scenarios and discussions with their key person about any worries or concerns to help them feel prepared.
- Bereavement - we recognize that this may be a very difficult time for children and families - we have a separate policy on bereavement which we follow to help us 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 nursery management team or key person to enable this support to be put in place.

Date: 02/10/2025.

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