



RAINBOW PRE-SCHOOL

Established 1979

Registered Charity No: 1026005

BAPTIST CHURCH HALL

2 Dukes Avenue, Muswell Hill, London N10 2PT

Telephone 020 8883 4010

Transitions policy

Policy statement

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

Some examples of transitions that young children may experience are:

- Starting preschool
- Starting school or moving nurseries
- Family breakdowns
- New siblings
- Moving home
- Death of a family member or close friend
- Death of a family pet

Our staff are trained to observe their key children and to 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 behaviour.

Starting preschool

We recognise that starting preschool may be difficult for some children and their families. We have a Settling in policy to support the child and their family.

Starting school or moving childcare providers

Starting school is an important transition and some children may feel anxious about the move. We will do all we can to facilitate a smooth transition and minimise any potential stresses. 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 e.g., childminder or another nursery.

- We provide a variety of resources that relate to school e.g., a role play area set up as a school classroom. This helps the children to become familiar with this new concept and will aid the transition.
- We maintain strong relationships with schools in our local area.

- We invite school representatives into the preschool, where possible, so they have the opportunity to introduce themselves to the children.
- Where possible we use other ways to support the transition to school e.g., inviting previous children from the preschool who have moved on to school to come back and talk to the children about their school experiences.
- Each key person will talk about the school with their key children who are due to move to school and discuss what they think may be different and what may be the same. They will talk through any concerns the child may have and initiate activities or group discussions relating to any issues to help children overcome these
- We produce a comprehensive transfer report on every child leaving the preschool and with parental permission will share this with the school to enable teachers to have a good understanding of every child received. This will include their interests, strengths and level of understanding and development in key areas. This will support continuity of care and early learning.
- With parental permission around school allocation day, we may share details of the schools' children are going to so parents can see which children may be going to the same school. This can offer some reassurance for the children to know that are moving with some familiar peers.

Other early years 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 preschool or collected from preschool by a childminder, we will ensure that key information is being provided to the child's parent by providing the information directly to the parent via email or telephone.

Family breakdowns

We support families going through separation by working closely with the parents to establish the most effective transition and support. We understand that this can be a difficult time and support a child's emotional well-being and report any significant changes in behaviour to the parent.

Moving home and new siblings

We recognise 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 so we can support the child to be prepared. The key person 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

We recognise that this may be a very difficult time for children and their families. We will put in place any appropriate support for children and families

If parents feel that their child requires additional support because of any changes and/or transitions in their life, we ask that you speak to the manager and the key person to enable this effective support/ consideration to be put into place.