



Supporting Transitions Policy

Children experience many transitions in their early years and 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 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 setting

Spice Childcare will support all children in the setting with any transitions they may be encountering. If the transition relates to the child starting at the nursery we will follow our settling in policy. Staff will fully support the child through any transitions within the setting, eg. room changes.

Starting school

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

- The setting will provide a variety of resources that relate to school, e.g. uniform to dress up in, a role play area set up as a school classroom, books about starting school. This will help the children to become familiar with this new concept and will aid the transition
- 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 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 enabling these to be overcome

- The setting will ensure a comprehensive report is produced on each child starting school to enable teachers to have a good understanding of each 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.

Family breakdowns

When parents separate it is a difficult situation for all concerned. The setting understands that emotions run high, please refer to the separated families policy which shows how the setting 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 staff 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.

Parents may also consider placing their child at the setting for additional sessions during these events to provide them with consistency and time away from the changes occurring.

Bereavement

The setting has a separate policy on bereavement as this can be a difficult time for children and their families. Spice Childcare 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 manager and the key person to enable this support to be put into place.

Internal use only

This policy was adopted on	
Signed on behalf of Spice Childcare	
Date for review	