

little caterpillars

a good place to be 2

Settling in

One of the important things if your 2 year old is just starting with us is that they settle in so that they can begin to enjoy the environment and activities on offer.

It is quite usual at 2 years old to still be anxious when they first separate from their main carer (probably parents but in different family groups could be a grandparent or foster parent).

Do not be surprised if your 2 year old does not wave goodbye and happily start to play, especially if this is the first setting that they have been to and the first time that they have been separated from you.

At Little Caterpillars we have adopted the 'Key Person Approach' so your child will have the opportunity to bond with one of our team as an emotional safety net. The good news is that most two year olds capable of forging new and strong relationships with adults so with sensitive support from their key person we would hope that they settle quickly.

Preparing for the transition to Little Caterpillars

We will try and learn as much as possible about your two year old as we can before they start coming to us. We will meet with you and find out as much as we can about them and we will also give you an All About Me form to complete and give back to us before the first day.

We do appreciate that the separation might be difficult for you as a parent too. If it is the first time you have left your child with someone else then you are bound to be apprehensive. On the first day, we will keep in touch with you by sending you a text or ringing you to let you know how your child is settling in.

Goodbyes.....either being too anxious yourself or running off without saying a proper goodbye can be unsettling for your child. If the drop off routine is causing you any concern then please talk to us and we will work through how it can be made easier for everyone. Although we know that the initial separation may be met with tears (it is perfectly understandable for a child to be sad when they leave their parents) then we will be observing them to ensure that their sadness is only temporary.

Do you offer settling in sessions?

There is no 'one size fits all' process that works for every 2 year old. We will work with you to see what works best for you and your 2 year old.

Some children come to us with no settling in period at all which is great if that works for your child. We are happy for you and your child to come along for settling in sessions by arrangement and both you and your child stay to play together. This will hopefully progress to you as a parent taking more of a backseat and then going out of the room for a few minutes. These stages may be accomplished in one session or may take several sessions again this will all be agreed in partnership with yourselves. We are happy to arrange for a home visit on request if your child has had separation issues in the past or you have reason to believe that there will be separation issues. If this is something that you would like to know more about then please ask.