How we settle children into the Early years at Thrapston Primary School

A settling in period is the time before a child joins the Early years when they can visit the setting with their parents and stay for a while in order to get to know the adults, children and their new environment.

It is important to us that the child has spent some time in the setting before their actual starting date, this will help them to feel more settled and confident. It will also provide parents with the opportunity to ask questions and find out about how the children spend their days and the daily routine as well as getting to know the staff. We feel this time is important as it helps to build connections between home and school and forge a positive relationship between staff and parents.

As a matter of policy we encourage parents and children to visit our setting on at least three occasions before the child’s first day. (These sessions will be free of charge) The length of these visits can vary but this can be agreed with the Early years lead teacher or a member of the school’s senior Leadership team

Children will be shown around the area where they will be based, invited to engage with other children in active learning activities, have a drink or a snack and be shown where they will put any of their belongings. Parents will be able to discuss any individual needs that the child might have.

These visits will also provide an opportunity to discuss how long the first few days in setting will be, provide contact numbers and list adults who have permission to collect the child.

On the first day we are happy for parents to stay for a short while to ensure the child is happy and settled, we very much want this experience to be a happy one for parent and child. Parents are free to telephone the school office to check that all is well if the child has been at all unsettled.