All Silver Stars Day Nursery policies will be subject to any future change according to Government legislation and guidelines to maintain the safety of all children, families, staff and visitors.

3.12

Settling Children

Policy statement

We aim to ensure your child's introduction to our setting is as stress free as possible. Once a place has been offered, we aim to achieve this by inviting your child to visit the nursery prior to your child's official start date. This helps to familiarize your child with the nursery, the nursery staff, and the other children, and provides the opportunity to give your journey a trial run.

Key Procedures

Pre-Start Visits

- Parents can schedule a home visit with two practitioners to discuss:
  - Family background
  - Likes/dislikes
  - Daily routines
  - Comforters and support needs
- Parents complete an 'All About Me' form to provide detailed information about the child.

Settling Sessions

- First session: half an hour, child familiarizes with surroundings.
- Parents are encouraged to drop off quickly; staying in the room is discouraged.
- Sessions gradually increase:
  - Half an hour → One hour → Two hours
- Minimum of 2 morning sessions before full days.
- If a child is very unsettled, parents will be contacted to collect.

Supportive Practices

- Minimise disruption to home routines.
- Provide simple, stimulating, and fun activities to encourage engagement.
- Staff and parents work together to help the child feel confident and secure.
- Settling times vary per child; patience and flexibility are essential.

Preparing your child to start nursery

Whilst your child is settling into nursery, we have a few recommendations to support their transition prior and during the settling period.

- Breastfeeding: avoid stopping right before settling; do it before or after the child is settled.
- Contact naps: reduce before and during settling to encourage independence.
- Drop-off/pick-up: keep short; detailed handovers via Ovivio or phone, not in the room.
- Avoid other major changes during settling.
- Flexibility: early pick-ups may be needed if the child is unsettled.

- Health: children may fall ill more often in the first 6 weeks; follow the sickness policy.

If you have any queries or questions prior or during the settling period, or we can support the transition in anyway please do not hesitate to speak with a member of management or the staff members within the room.

This policy was adopted by	Silver Stars Day Nursery
Date	February 2026
Review date	February 2027
Name of signatory	Mrs Jenifer Capper
Role of signatory	Proprietor
Signed: Date:	 February 2026