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**Settling In Policy**

As parents ourselves we understand how difficult it is for parents to leave their child with a childminder and return to work. We will therefore work with you to ensure your child is settled and that you are happy with the care that provide.

We are happy to organise settling in sessions for your child which gives you the opportunity to provide us with lots of information about your child, their likes and dislikes, routines, favourite activities, how to comfort them if they become upset and how they have reacted when left before. It also gives us the opportunity to start to build a relationship with you and your child and to understand both your needs and wishes.

Generally, we would recommend that you leave your child with us for the duration of these sessions as, in our experience, staying with them can be counter-productive in the long run. Some children will take longer than others to settle and some settle quickly and then become distressed a few weeks later. We will work with you to support your child through the transition period and make it as easy as possible. It is important that you and your child are relaxed and happy in our setting and with the care we provide.

Some parents find it helpful to message us during the day via WhatsApp to find out how their child is. We are happy to receive messages but we may not be in a position to respond straight away if we are, for example, attending to a child’s personal needs. So please do not panic if you message us and there is no immediate reply.

If you have any concerns regarding this policy please discuss them with us.