



Settle and Transition Policy

Settling into Wise Owls

We want every child to settle happily at Wise Owls and work closely with parents to achieve this.

Before the Initial Settle

- We will confirm your preferred sessions and start date.
- A parent contract and deposit must be completed.
- You will receive proposed settle dates, usually in the weeks leading up to your child's start. Settles are arranged during the sessions your child will attend.
- Wherever possible, the person who usually drops off/collects your child should bring them to the settles.

Typical Settling Arrangements

- **Squirrels (9m–2yrs):** Around 6 short sessions ("little and often"), plus a home visit and after-hours settle.
- **Hedgehogs (2–3yrs):** Around 4 sessions, plus a home visit and after-hours settle.
- **Bluebirds (3–5yrs):** Around 4 sessions, gradually lengthening, plus a home visit and after-hours settle.

These are guidelines only — each child's needs will be considered individually.

During Settles

- **Home Visit:** A Director and your child's key worker visit for ~45 minutes to begin building relationships in your home. They will also help you set up your child's Family profile.
- **After-Hours Settle:** A short session (around 15 minutes) with parent, child, and key worker the day before the first nursery settle.
- **In-House Settles:** Your child's key worker greets you, supports goodbyes at the door, and agrees collection times with you.
- Parents are welcome to call the nursery to check in. Staff will update you on your child's progress throughout.
- If extra sessions are needed, these will be arranged as required.

Dual Nursery Placements

Where children attend more than one setting:

- Our Finance Director will coordinate funding.
- We encourage communication between both key workers to support consistency for the child.



Transitions Within Wise Owls

As children move to a new age group:

- We arrange in-house settle sessions so they can meet their new key person/team and learn routines.
- A handover is arranged between the current and new key person.

Transition to School

To support school readiness, we may:

- Share books and stories about starting school.
- Welcome visits from teachers and arrange visits to schools.
- Talk about new routines and look at photos/websites of the new setting.
- Help children practise independence skills such as dressing and toileting.

Transitions Outside of Nursery

We understand that changes such as moving house, family separation, or a new sibling can affect children. We work in partnership with parents to provide the support each child needs, tailored to their individual circumstances. Please let us know about any changes at home so we can support your child effectively.

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