

Your child's first day at preschool

Saying goodbye on your child's first day at Broadhall Bunnies can be a very hard moment for both you and your child. To try to make this easier for you we have our top tips:

- **Share pictures of preschool with your child before they start with us.** Looking at pictures of the preschool and of the adults who will be here will help to remind your child about where they will be coming and who they will be seeing. There are photos in their welcome book, on our website and on our Facebook page.
- **When you arrive on your first day your child's key person will be waiting to greet you both.** They will be able to answer any questions that you may have and they will have a little bit of paperwork to do with you, finding out more about your child and ensuring that all your contact details are up to date. Making it clear that you are at ease with your child being with their key person will help them to form a close bond.
- **If your child has a comforter at home bring it to preschool with you.** This may be a blanket, a soft toy or a dummy. Let your child's key person know they have it with them so we can find it if it is needed.
- **When it's time to go, make sure to say good-bye to your child.** Never sneak out. As tempting as it may be, leaving without saying good-bye to your child risks breaking their trust in you.
- **Once you say good-bye, leave promptly.** A long farewell scene might only serve to reinforce a child's sense that preschool is a bad place.
- **Express your ease with leaving.** Some parents wave from outside the classroom window or make a funny good-bye face.
- **Don't linger.** The longer you stay, the harder it is. Let your child know that you'll be there to pick them up, and say "See you later!" once they are engaged in an activity. We always ask that you come back 10 minutes before the end of the session on your child's first day to ensure that you are the first parent through the door to greet your child.
- **Be assured.** If your child becomes overly distressed or does not settle we will contact you and discuss what we do next.
- **Remember we are always at the end of the phone.** You are always welcome to call us to see how your child is getting on.