

The Care/Classroom Environment Support Children with Transitions

When we talk about 'transitions' we mean 'changes'. We know young children can be sensitive to the changes they experience, for example when transitioning from one activity to another.

Changes are unavoidable and coping with change is vital learning for the children to face the challenges of our ever fast changing world. Being able to deal with change is essential for us.

Change *verb*

1. make (someone or something) different
2. replace (someone or something) with someone or something else

We must care about changes for the children



Change is essential for growth and development

Change is a chance for more learning



Progress is impossible without change

Babies and Toddlers

Babies and toddlers are supported for their sense of safety and security from familiar adults, items, and routines. They are sensitive to change, and even small changes can cause them to feel anxious. During their nursery day, young babies and toddlers experience multiple changes, drop-off and pick-up, nappy changes, transitioning between activities, staff changing shifts, etc.

Pre-Schoolers

Pre-Schoolers are more adaptable to changes, and most children benefit from knowing what to expect. A day at preschool demands children adjust to many transitions and changes. We must limit the number of changes and inform children of changes in advance to help them feel safe. When children feel safe, they learn better and they are more able to control their behaviour.

We must consider the impact change has on young children and to plan for ways to support them, for them to build resilience, for them to learn to cope with positive responses to change.

Sunny Days Bridport Ofsted report 7 September 2022 refers to some transitions and changes.

What transitions and changes can you spot in their report, and what strategies do you suggest we use to support and help young children to learn to cope with positive responses to change?