

Personal Belongings

In Askea Community Childcare Centre we understand that a child may have an emotional attachment to a personal belonging from home, such as comfort toy, blanket or soother and accept that this item may be instrumental to the child's feeling of emotional well-being and sense of belonging when starting in our Centre. Comfort toys, blanket or soother are viewed as important for a child's settling-in process and developing the link to home.

Personal Belongings Procedure

The following procedures are in place to implement this policy

1. Staff encourage parents to bring only their child's "comfort toy/ blanket or soother which may be essential to a child's emotional well-being and/ or sense of belonging, connecting home experiences with the service to assist in the settling-in process.
2. Staff discourage the bringing of toys from home to the Centre by asking parents to leave all other toys at home except for comfort blanket/ toy or soother.
3. Parents must clearly label all comfort toys so staff can correctly identify belongings to ensure they are returned.
4. Children are encouraged to place their "comfort toys/ blankets" in a special box/ basket to reduce the likelihood of their becoming lost.
5. Staff make it clear that whilst all care is taken staff are **not responsible** for damaged or lost items.
6. Age appropriate educational toys and resources are available for your children's use daily which removes the need for children bringing toys to the Centre, although we do welcome children to share their interests with their peers.
7. At fancy dress times parents should ensure that dress up clothing does not encourage violent play (e.g. pirates with swords etc.).

This policy was agreed and adopted by Askea Community Childcare Centre