

Is your child due to start in a child care setting?

Your child's start can be stressful. It may be the first time someone else has cared for them. So before they begin it is helpful to think about the things you want the adults caring for your child to know about them and the questions you'd like them to answer

Useful information to share

You are the best person to speak on behalf of your child sharing the things important to them ...

What do I like?

What don't I like?

How do I communicate ...or let you know what I want?

What are my strengths?

What do I need help with?

Who is important to me?

Who do I get help and support from?

What are my parents hopes and dreams for me?

How do I communicate ...

- 👉 using words
- 👉 using signs
- 👉 using sounds and noises
- 👉 By pointing
- 👉 By laughing and crying

My strengths and what I need help with ...

- 👉 Sharing toys
- 👉 Building & constructing
- 👉 Making music & singing
- 👉 Moving around, climbing,
- 👉 Emptying and filling

My parents hopes and dreams ...

- 👉 That I'll be able to communicate
- 👉 That I'll be happy
- 👉 That I'll be independent
- 👉 That I'll make friends

Who is important to me and who I get support from...

- 👉 My Mum and dad
- 👉 Grandparents, aunts and uncles
- 👉 Family friends
- 👉 My pets; My comforter
- 👉 Speech and language therapists
- 👉 Health visitor

What I like & what I don't like ..

- 👉 To play with & do
- 👉 To eat & drink
- 👉 To sing or listen to
- 👉 To wear
- 👉 To watch
- 👉 To touch

Here are some ideas...

Useful questions to ask

When visiting a nursery, you may find asking some of these questions help you to get the information and reassurance you need

What will happen at snack time and lunch time?

My child often needs ...a sleep...somewhere quiet... opportunities to run around... where will they do this?

If I need to talk to someone who would that person be?

My child doesn't enjoy group sessions. How will you help them?

If my child needs things adjusting or if they need help to get involved in activities how will you do that?

My child loves... to go through open doors... to climb...to put things in their mouth How will you make sure they're safe?

Would your staff be able to attend the training that will help them meet my child's needs?

What previous experience do you have as a nursery; how did you meet that child's needs?

What experience do you have of working with the therapy services such as speech and language therapists? How will you use the information they share to work with my child?

My child can get very upset or distressed by change...loud noises...when children try to take things from them...how will you help them when they do?

How will you share my child's progress with me and how will I know what you are doing to support them?

My child struggles to let you know what they want. How will you help them to communicate?

How will I know what has happened each day?