Kangaroo Island Children's Services Inc

ENROLLING AND SETTLING IN CENTRE BASED CARE

We encourage you to visit with your child prior to starting care, visiting as often as possible to ensure a happy start. As part of the enrolment procedure, we will ask you to participate in an orientation meeting, to share your child's special needs such as comforters, sleeping/rest routines and food preferences with the staff involved in caring for your child. We will discuss routines, the parent contract, behaviour management and other policies. Your child may not only be very shy for the first few days or weeks, but also very tired. It is an emotional strain for children to adjust to their new environment - even if a child seems to be coping well. Initially your child's time with us should be short. It is better for the child to be reluctant to leave us than anxious to go home.

On arriving:
We ask that you bring your child into their area so that we can greet you and your child. Please always say goodbye to your child, no matter how distressing this may seem to you.

It is important that your child knows that you are leaving and that you will return. It is very upsetting for your child to suddenly miss you, to look for you only to discover that you have disappeared. Your child's trust in you falters, and subsequent separations may become more difficult.

We are here to help you should you need help at separation time. Please:
- help your child wash their hands upon arrival
- sign the attendance register on arrival
- check they have their broad brimmed hat
- help your child to place their belongings on their hook
- bring a piece of fruit for morning and afternoon snack
- pack spare clothes, labelling all of your children's clothing.
- bring a favourite comfort toy for sleep time
- in summer time sandals are much safer than thongs.

We will provide protective smocks for messy activities, however please dress your child in play clothes.

Please ensure your child's bag is clearly named at the outside top front.