

# Woodentops Preschool

## 23- Bereavement Policy

**Aim:** To ensure we support the children and staff if or when they experience grief or a bereavement.

We understand that this is not only a difficult time for families, but it may also be a confusing time for young children, especially if they have little or no understanding of why their parents are upset and why this person is no longer around.

**Procedure:**

- We ask that if there is a loss of a family member or close friend that the parents inform the preschool as soon as they feel able to. This will enable us to support both the child and the family wherever we can and helps us to understand a potential change in behaviour of a child who may be grieving themselves.
- The key person and/or the manager will talk with the family/carer to ascertain what support is needed or wanted from the preschool. This may be an informal discussion or a meeting away from the child to help calm a potentially upsetting situation
- The child may need extra support or one-to-one care during this difficult time, Woodentops will adapt their staffing arrangements if possible, so they are fully supported by the most appropriate member of staff on duty, preferably the child's key person.
- The preschool will be flexible wherever possible to adapt the sessions the child and family may need during this time
- The death of family pets is also an area that children and their families/carers may need support with. We will follow the above procedure wherever it is appropriate to support the child to understand their loss and support their emotions through this time.

This policy was adopted on	25 <sup>th</sup> March 2019
Policy reviewed	1/1/22
Date for review	Jan 23