

Policy for supporting children who are experiencing loss of change in their lives

Coping with change, such as parents getting divorced, loss such as the death of a relative or family pet or having a new baby in the family can be very difficult for a child to cope with and they may display their emotions in a variety of ways.

As a professional childcare we will work with you support your child through any difficult times they may encounter. Wee are aware that different religions and cultures have differing ritual and attitudes towards death and divorce so will be guided by parents and families wishes.

We will support your child by:-

* Encouraging your child to ask questions and answer them to the best of our ability, honestly and using simple language and words that are age appropriate.
* Talking with the child about the person/animal who has died or about any other incidents they may want to talk about
* Offering to listen to the child, so they can share their thoughts and emotions in a safe and caring environment with a familiar and sympathetic adult
* Observing the child and noting any concerns or changes to their behaviour, play, and interaction with others and sharing these with you
* Finding appropriate ways for the child to become involved in remembering the person/animal, for example a memory box
* Regular discussing with parents how your child is coping, however this will not be on front of the child. We may need to arrange a meeting
* Ensuring that other children that attend understand that child is more sensitive at the moment and may need to be given more space or support.

Sometimes children need professional counselling to help them deal with their loss or adjust to a major change. We will support you and your child by signposting you to the services available.

Date Published: November 2017

Reviewed Date: November 2018