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Dvergsnes 15.04.2021

**CHILDS HABITUATION AT MARITIPPEN KINDERGARTEN**

**When the child begins in kindergarten:**

"The kindergarten staff will be able to facilitate a safe and good start at the kindergarten, in cooperation with the parents. The kindergarten staff will customize routines and organize time and space so that your child will have time to get acquainted, establish relationships and bond themselves with the staff and with other children. When the child begins in the kindergarten, staff will provide close monitoring during the first visit so that the child can experience the belonging and confidence to play, explore and learn. " (National Curriculum)

We have our “first day of visit” for all new families in the month of June. During the visit there will be a tour around the whole kindergarten exchanging useful information about the kindergarten, and you will have the opportunity to meet our staff.

In order to achieve a good and safe start for both children and parents, we use “ A parent's active friendship ”, inspired by the Jåtta model developed in Stavanger. The model is based on the knowledge of what small children need to be safe and thrive. We build our practice on recent research and relevant associated theories.

Joining the habituation visit is well spent time, we have good experience and faith in this method of introducing the kindergarten to your child. We focus on good structure and organization. It is important to have a regular rhythm every day which will be evident to the child and the parents. In this way, predictability is created. We want every new parent to take the time to be present in the department, to get to know the other children, the daily routines and the staff. How long your child needs “You (The parent) around” to get settled in and stay safe, depends on the child's personality, age and past experience.

* At startup, the parent (or other caregiver) is present with the child for the first five days
* Parents actively participate in practical tasks in kindergarten and are primarily responsible for the child in play, care and the meal session
* The staff is close by , approaching the child gradually
* Start-up conversation with your educator

**The first days:**

Listed time schedule is for illustrative purposes only and will be further agreed with the department staff.

Day 1: 09.00-11.00

Day 2: 09.00-11.00

Day 3: 09.00-14.00

Day 4: 09.00-14.00 (or by appointment)

Day 5: 09.00-14.00 (or by appointment)

**How to say goodbye to the child:**

Tell the child when You are about to leave. Your child may become suspicious and unsafe if you "sneak" out. It is important for your child to experience that you will not leave until you have said that you are really going to leave when you say it, and that you return within the agreed time. If you show uncertainty, your child will be uncertain. You will experience that the child will be crying at the farewell. It can be difficult for both you and your child to say goodbye in the beginning. Our experience is based on that the crying will end right after you are out of sight. We have good routines on these situations, and we will call, send a message with, or without pictures so you can see that your child is doing well.

**Transition to a new department:**

Here we also have good routines at the kindergarten. Each child has its own documentation file, and prepared internal transfer meetings are held between the "new" and "old" pedagogical leaders. Information is also carried forward to the staff who will be in the new department. We start the habituation in the spring before the child takes summer vacation, so they get acquainted with both the surroundings and the adults in the “new” department. Start-up meetings will be carried out with parents when needed.

We start with a visit to the department where they bring an adult and children from their own department; Here they can play, join the gathering, read etc.

As an association phase, visits are more systematic and solid, and the playtime, etc. expands to, for example, trips together. The other children who are not going to continue in the department will not be present, so that those who will be together from the fall will have time to become properly acquainted.

Spending a good time getting to know each other means we are helping to keep the children safe so that the transition becomes as natural as possible.