



USE OF DUMMIES IN NURSERY

At St Paul's Walden Nursery we recognise that a dummy can be a source of comfort for a child who is settling and/or upset, and that it may often form part of a child's sleep routine.

The nursery aims to:

- Discuss the use of dummies with parents as part of the child's individual care plans
- Only allow dummies if a child is really upset for comfort (for example if there is problems at home, they are new to the setting) and/or as part of their sleep routine
- Store dummies in individual hygienic dummy boxes labeled with the child's name to prevent cross-contamination with other children

Policy Adopted by St Pauls Walden Nursery
Signature
Signature
Review Date

March 2017
Position: Committee Chair
Position: Manager
March 2018

- If a dummy falls on the floor or is picked up by another child, this is cleaned immediately and sterilised where necessary

When discouraging the dummy staff will:

- Have a designated place for the dummies to be stored, which the child will be aware of
- Comfort the child and if age/stage appropriate explain why they are not allowed the dummy in a sensitive and appropriate manner.
- Distract children's attention with other activities and ensure they are settled before leaving them to play.
- Offer other methods of comfort such as toy, teddy or blanket.
- Explain to the child they can have their dummy when they get home or at bed time.

We will also offer support and advice to parents to discourage dummy use during waking hours at home and suggest ways to wean in which the child can be weaned off their dummy (when appropriate).

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