



56. Sleep

EYFS: 3.59

At Step By Step Montessori Ltd we aim to ensure that all children have enough sleep to support their development and natural sleeping rhythms in a safe environment.

The safety of children sleeping is paramount. Our policy follows the advice provided by The Cot Death Society to minimise the risk of Sudden Infant Death. We make sure that:

- Babies are placed on their backs to sleep, if a baby has rolled onto their tummy, you should turn them onto their back again, however once a baby can roll from back to front and back again, on their own, they can be left to find their own position
- Babies/toddlers are never put down to sleep with a bottle to self-feed
- Babies/toddlers are monitored visually when sleeping. Checks are recorded every 10 minutes and babies are never left in a separate sleep room without staff supervision at all times
- When monitoring, the staff member looks for the rise and fall of the chest and if the sleep position has changed

We provide a safe sleeping environment by:

- Monitoring the room temperature
- Using clean, light bedding/blankets and ensuring children are appropriately dressed for sleep to avoid overheating
- Only using safety-approved mats or other suitable sleeping equipment (i.e. pods or mats) that are compliant with British Standard regulations, and mattress covers are used in conjunction with a clean fitted sheet
- Keeping all spaces around sleep mats clear from hanging objects i.e. hanging cords, blind cords, drawstring bags
- Ensuring every child is provided with clean sleep mat if they wish to sleep
- Having a no smoking policy.

We ask parents to complete a section in the all about me booklet on their child's sleeping routine with the child's key person when the child starts at nursery and these are reviewed and updated at timely intervals.

We recognise parents' knowledge of their child with regard to sleep routines and will, where possible, work together to ensure each child's individual sleep routines and well-being continues to be met. However, staff will not force a child to sleep or keep them awake against his or her will. They will also not usually wake children from their sleep.

Staff will discuss any changes in sleep routines at the end of the day and share observations and information about children's behaviour when they do not receive enough sleep.

Sleeping twins

We follow the advice from The Lullaby Trust regarding sleeping twins. Further information can be found at: www.lullabytrust.org.uk

This policy was adopted on	Signed on behalf of the nursery	Date for review
January 2020		January 2021