



## SEPARATION AND ADJUSTMENT

Starting school is an exciting experience for children and their parents. Even those children who separate easily or have already been enrolled in a school setting are experiencing a transition. As concerned partners who care about your child's happiness, we will work with you to make your child's first days as happy as possible. It is in your child's best interest that we begin with an open schedule, which eases children into the school routine.

You might want to show your child the location of their new school and talk about the teachers and the children who you know may be part of the group. Discuss the daily routine in general terms. Do not promise him/her anything you don't know to be a fact. Make sure your child knows that you want him/her to be at MI ESCUELITA and that it will be a wonderful experience for us all.

On your child's first day at MI ESCUELITA, an informal orientation will be given to the children and parents. Children and parents will meet the teachers, explore the settings and be introduced to some materials.

Initially, you will stay with your child for 30-45 minutes. If your child is new to MI ESCUELITA's program, the first couple of days he/she will stay for half a day. You will receive an adjustable phase-in schedule on your child's first day. On your child's second day, you may be able to leave the room with a goodbye (you could stay with him/her for up to 30 minutes depending on your child's readiness to participate.) Plan to come back promptly as promised, so your child can trust your words and the teachers'. Please do not sneak out of the room. During the transition phase (maybe a week or two,) we ask parents to be available in the event that your child requires an earlier pickup than expected.

At MI ESCUELITA, we ask that parents allow at least a couple of weeks for gradual transitioning. This may vary with some children. We promise to make every effort to ease both you and your child into our program. Children begin to feel comfortable with separation as parents and teachers work together, assuring them that "Mi Escuelita" is a good and fun place to be and that teachers can be trusted to take care of them.

While you are in the room with your child, keep your interaction to a minimum. Introduce him/her to the teachers, other children and parents. If he/she wants to play with you at a table, or on the floor, please follow the teacher's suggestions. Refer your child's requests or questions to the teachers. Please do not push him/her to separate. He/she will participate when ready. Share any significant information with the teacher about his/her customs or your work needs that might affect his/her adjustment.

It is our goal that you and your child have a great, positive and fun experience at

MI ESCUELITA

¡Muchas gracias!