

THE SETTLING-IN PERIOD (EINGEWÖHNUNG) FOR NURSERY CHILDREN IN VILLA HERZOLINO

FAQs

What is the Settling-in Period (Eingewöhnung) and why is it so important for my child?

For very young children under three, starting in nursery school (Krippe) is often their first experience of being apart from their family and developing new relationships with children and adults they have never met before. In order to gently introduce them to this new situation, we guide your child through a structured settling-in period called the Eingewöhnung. You, the parent, are there to give your child support and security in this new and strange experience. Early childhood research has shown that the better your child settles in, the higher their chances are of happily flourishing in their new group.

Why is there a parent-teacher-child meeting before my child starts in the Villa nursery?

A few weeks before your child is due to start Krippe, we schedule a parent-teacher-child meeting with you in Villa Herzolino. Here we have a chance to get to know each other a little and your child sees one of their new teachers for the first time. We give you information about the Krippe, how we are going to do the Eingewöhnung and discuss the date when your child can start. We also ask you various questions about your child, to give us important background information to help them settling in. Shortly afterwards, we send you a list of all the practical things your child will need in the group.

What happens during the first few days of Eingewöhnung?

On day 1 you and your child are welcomed into the group, usually around mid-morning during the Free Play period. Here you can explore our rooms, play with some of our toys and observe a little of what is going on. This usually lasts about an hour.

On day 2, we ask you to take a more passive role while a teacher tries to engage with your child and play with them a little.

From day 3 or 4 onwards, we often ask you to come at an earlier time so that your child can experience Morning Circle and perhaps even stay for breakfast.

Villa Herzoline

Zweisprachige Evang.-Luth. Kindertagesstätte

How does Eingewöhnung proceed after day 4?

Progress settling in to Krippe is always determined by each individual child themselves. How long they stay on their own in the group, when parents say good-bye or collect them – these factors are dictated by how comfortable your child feels in this new situation and also by how much energy he or she has. If things are going well, we try the first separation by asking you to leave the room for a few minutes. On returning, you collect your child and go home.

As your child begins to feel more at home in the group, we start extending their time, passing such milestones as staying for lunch or taking a nap until they are remaining for the full number of hours booked.

All through the Eingewöhnung, we talk to you every day about how your child is doing and what the plans are for the next day.

How long does the Eingewöhnung last?

Experience has shown that most children need between four and six weeks to fully settle in. Please plan for this length of time! Generally the "rule of thumb" is the longer the child is booked for, the longer the Eingewöhnung takes.

What is important for my child during the Eingewöhnung period?

It is always the same person who accompanies the child during the entire settling-in period.

Parents see sending their child to Krippe in a positive light. It is going to be interesting and exciting and lots of fun.

If necessary, lots of reassurance from Mum and Dad.

What is important for parents during the Eingewöhnung period?

You are willing give your child into our care. Trust us!

Open and regular communication with your child's teachers is of great importance. Even small details like "My child slept badly last night." can make a difference!

For 4 to 6 weeks during the Eingewöhnung, the parent responsible is either not working or can organize their time very flexibly.

Please, no family holidays during the settling-in period.

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Read your emails or any information lists in the foyer. If an answer or a signature is needed, then please do it immediately.

What is important for my child's teachers during the Eingewöhnung period?

Mutual communication. Talk to us, ask us questions, let us know if you are worried about something! We will talk to you every day and let you know how things are going.

Be on time, both bringing and collecting your child.

Be available! If we phone you, we really need to reach you immediately. Please make sure your number is up to date and your phone is always on loud!