



## Circle time

A daily, familiar routine of coming together to welcome each other to the day ahead.

We sing, listen, join in, count the children, check the weather, see what day it is, share our news and how we are feeling. When we get better at it we also have a number/shape or sound of the week, we also have a 'wonder' of the day.

We did hear a little rumour that circle times are 'out' and that we shouldn't be disturbing the children's play... so we had a team meeting and we had a little think and this is what we thought...

We learn so very much from circle time:

- Listening to others and taking turns to talk
- Working to a routine - short and focussed if needed
- Feeling welcome and valued, it's safe and familiar
- Builds confidence and self esteem
- Acknowledges emotions and that we are all different
- Counting
- Singing and language development
- Sharing ideas
- Sharing thoughts
- We laugh a lot together
- It's very inclusive
- We get to know each other
- This is the time that settles some children into the start of their session
- We concentrate and develop attention skills
- Its good practice for school
- We learn that sometimes you need to come together as a group - the play will be there at the end of circle time too, it helps us to cope with disruptions and interruptions
- It consolidates our British values
- It helps us, as staff understand and realise each child's cultural capital

We all decided as a result of this that for us, circle times are still very much

'in' 😊

