

## Reflective questions

Attachment to a primary carer allows babies and young children to develop a bond through social interaction. Warm sensitive interactions provide a sense of security and emotional well-being and support the developing brain. With early years provisions the key person role is to establish a two way relationship with the family and child, so that they can provide familiarity, security and continuity of care.

Developing Practice:

- How do you help new parents and children become familiar with your setting?
- How do you sensitively and appropriately find out about their needs and family life?
- Is the child allowed time to settle in, to see whether they bond or form an attachment with a particular practitioner whilst ensuring there is still a key point of contact?
- Can the key person identify how to calm and soothe the child and what comforts them?
- Is there a secondary key person system in place, to provide continuity of care when the key person is on holiday or absent?
- Are parents made aware of whom the key person is and on a day to day basis who is caring for their child?
- Do routines (sleep, rest, meals) reflect the home environment?
- How do you know that parents and children feel welcome in your setting?
- How do you share information with parents ?(face to face, phone calls, text, email, newsletters, electronic learning journeys, social media, parents groups, social events)
- Are there any parents that you find hard to engage? What could you do to support these families? Consider completing the **'Parental Engagement and the Home Learning Environment' e-learning.**