

Television Policy

There are times when watching Television can offer a period of “calming”, say after a meal, when it is best the children sit, and allow their food to settle. We limit the time children in our care are permitted to watch television. Generally no longer than a half hour in one sitting, and certainly no more than two half hour periods in one day.

If a child is feeling a little off colour and needing more rest then it may be appropriate for them to watch more television that particular day.

We ensure that any programmes watched are suitable for all the children in our care. We work on the “lowest common dominator” in terms of age. If there are preschool children in the living room, only programming suitable for their age will be viewed regardless of other ages in the room

Recent research has shown that excessive watching of TV can actually cause problems for some children. It can affect their social and communication skills, as there is no interaction. Some reports seem to suggest that violence in cartoons, often intended for older children but watched by younger children can affect their demeanors, and make for a more violent child.

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1159766/Cartoon-violence-makes-children-aggressive.html>

Television is very fast and children get used to this pace of entertainment, this can them result in them becoming bored and frustrated at the slower pace of school teaching.