

Table 2: Emotional and social development 2 – 5



Age	Emotional and social development Milestones
2 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unable to wait for needs to be met • May be distracted from tantrums • Play in parallel with other children but are unable to share toys
3 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Find it easier to wait • Start to take turns and share • Enjoy being with other children • Will comfort another child • Will help adults
3–4 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can cope with separation from primary carer if with someone they know • Begin to play co-operatively • Show clear preferences with friendships • Play with others
4–5 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can work out what other people may be thinking (which helps them negotiate with others) • Able to understand the need for rules • Can develop close friendships • Behaviour is mostly co-operative • Able to separate from parents more easily