

SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS POLICY

INTRODUCTION

We provide an environment in which all children with special educational needs (SEN) are supported to reach their full potential.

- We have regard for the Special Educational Needs and Disability Code of Practice (2014).
- We have in place a clear approach for identifying, responding to, and meeting children's SEN, including disabled children with special educational needs.
- We support and involve parents (and where relevant children), actively listening to, and acting on their wishes and concerns.
- We work in partnership with the local authority and other external agencies to ensure the best outcomes for children with SEN and their families.
- We regularly monitor and review our policy, practice and provision and, if necessary, make adjustments.

PROCEDURES

- We designate at least one member of staff to be the Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCO) and give their name to parents.
The SENCOs in the setting are: Anna Elcox and Sharon Gronow
- The SENCO works closely with our manager and other colleagues and has responsibility for the day-to-day operation of our Special Educational Needs Policy and for co-ordinating provision for children with SEN.
- We ensure that the provision for children with SEN is the responsibility of all members of the setting.
- We ensure that our inclusive admissions practice ensures equality of access and opportunity.
- We provide a broad, balanced and differentiated curriculum for all children.
- We believe that the Montessori curriculum is particularly inclusive for all children.
- We apply SEN support to ensure early identification of children with SEN.
- We use the graduated approach system (assess, plan, do, review) applied in increasing detail and frequency to ensure that children progress.
- We ensure that parents are involved at all stages of the assessment, planning, provision and review of their children's special education including all decision making processes
- We, where appropriate, take into account children's views and wishes in decisions being made about them, relevant to their level understanding.
- We provide parents with information on local sources of support and advice e.g. Local Offer, Information, Advice and Support Service.
- We liaise and work with other external agencies to help improve outcomes for children with SEN.
- We have systems in place for referring children for further assessment e.g. Early Help Assessment and Education, Health and Care (EHC) assessment.
- Whenever it's possible, we provide resources (human and financial) to implement our Special Educational Needs Policy. We will apply for extra funding from our Local Authority and we will make adjustments to accommodate the needs of the child (for example, offering a space in the afternoon when we have less children and therefore a higher ratio staff for children).
- We attend further training as needed.
- We ensure the effectiveness of our special educational needs provision by collecting information from a range of sources e.g. action plan reviews, staff and management meetings, parental and external agency's views, inspections and complaints. This information is collated, evaluated and reviewed annually.

FURTHER GUIDANCE

- Early Years Foundation Stage Statutory Framework (DfE 2014)
- Working Together to Safeguard Children (DfE 2013)
- Special Educational Needs and Disability Code of Practice (DfE & DoH 2014)