



SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS POLICY

Statement of intent

Teston and Wateringbury Preschool strives to provide an environment in which all children are supported to reach their full potential.

- We take account of the Special Educational Needs (SEN) Code of Practice in order to identify, assess and provide help for children with SEN.
- The Preschool believes that generally the development of young children with disabilities or special educational needs is more likely to be enhanced through attending a main stream service for under fives used by all children.
- The Preschool will seek additional resources and help when needed for a child with special needs to enable the child to have individual attention and to fulfil his/her potential.
- The one-to-one helpers need the support of the Preschool Staff and they must have a good relationship with both the child and parents.
- There may be other workers involved such as a physiotherapist, speech therapist etc, and it is important that everyone works together with the parents for the benefit of the child.
- The Preschool Staff realise the need to be very sensitive to the feelings and needs of all children. Sometimes these needs can manifest themselves in very difficult behaviour right across the spectrum, from being withdrawn to being aggressive, and we must go out of our way to meet these needs.
- If one-to-one support is needed for a child with special needs it does not affect the staff:child ratio – counted as an extra child.
- Children with special needs will not be excluded from any Preschool activities or outings.
- Children with special needs are considered a priority wherever possible, i.e the waiting list.
- Children whose parent(s) has/have a disability or learning difficulty are considered a priority whenever possible.
- The Preschool is committed to providing support to parents of children with special educational needs.
- Safety arrangements for each child with a disability are reviewed with each new admission.
- The Preschool encourages children to value and respect others including those with disabilities and special educational needs. Inappropriate attitudes and practices will be challenged.

- We have two Special Educational Needs Co-ordinators within the Preschool. These are Jenny Stockdale and Louise Williams. – see **STAFFING POLICY Appendix 1** for SENCO job description
- Parents are asked at the time of joining the pre-school to sign a form consenting to a SEN adviser being contacted if and when required – see **Appendix 1**.

Refer also to:

**BEHAVIOUR MANAGEMENT POLICY
EQUALITY, DIVERSITY & EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES POLICY
STAFFING POLICY**