Inclusion and Disabilities Policy

Safeguarding and Welfare Requirements / 3.67, 3.68, 3.69, 3.70, 3.72

Skylark Day Nursery is committed to the integration of children with special needs. All children have the right to be educated and develop to their full potential alongside each other. It is a positive experience to be able to share the same opportunities and overcome any difficulties together.

This policy is in line with:

The Children and Families Act 2014

Special Educational Needs and Disability Regulations 2014

We also have read and understood key local authority special needs and disability guidance and/or information that has been provided. We make sure that we adhere to local guidance and our intention is to seek support, if necessary.

Aims

- To recognise any special needs a child may have and ensure all staff are aware of the above legislation and guidance.
- To employ a Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCO) who is experienced in the care and assessment of children with special needs.
- To assess each child's specific needs and adapt our facilities if possible.
- To liaise with other agencies including health and education authorities and seek advice, support and training.
- To make sure that at the earliest opportunity, children who need support are identified.
- To make sure good use is made of observing children and recording their development.
- To robustly track children's learning and development, to ascertain if they are progressing well.
- To make sure that each two-year-old's development has been recorded via the two-year progress check and support has been identified if need be.
- To ensure that all children are treated as equals and are encouraged to take part in every aspect of the setting day.

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- To promote positive images of those with special needs wherever possible.
- To monitor and record the child's progress and regularly review their changing needs.
- To provide adequate resources to support their learning.
- To provide suitable help for the child in setting whilst ensuring that they receive a broad and balanced curriculum.
- To involve parents/carers as early as possible and ask for their support in assisting the child at home.
- To build a partnership with support services for the benefit of those children with special educational needs and disability (SEND) in our setting.
- To make sure that staff are extra vigilant when working with children with special educational needs and disability, in terms of safeguarding and child protection

Access to the Curriculum

Skylark Day Nursery recognises that the extent to which a learning difficulty influences a child's development depends not only on the severity but also:

- the extent to which their environment supports them in coping with their difficulties;
- the child's motivation;
- appropriateness of learning resources;
- appropriateness of the setting's curriculum, content and delivery.

For these reasons our setting:

- considers the needs of children with SEND at all stages of curriculum development;
- works closely with special support agencies;
- ensures that there is an appropriate range of teaching strategies and approaches;

- investigates, with advice from specialist support agencies, the appropriateness and availability of any equipment that may be required to facilitate access to the curriculum;
- coordinates support available both from within the setting's resources and from external agencies to most effectively enable access for children with SEND.

Role of the Person Responsible for SEND

The SENCO is responsible for:

- day-to-day operations of the setting's SEND policy;
- liaising with and advising fellow members of staff;
- co-ordinating provision for children with SEND across the setting;
- maintaining a SEND register and overseeing the records of all children with special educational needs;
- liaising with external agencies e.g. portage and health visitors;
- making existing and new members of staff aware of SEND policies and procedures;
- ensuring that documents are in place, such as the education, health and care plans.

Skylark Day Nursery believes that all children have a right to experience and develop alongside their peers. Each child's needs are unique, therefore any attempt to categorise children is inappropriate.

The setting is committed to working alongside parents/carers in the provision of their child's individual needs in order to enable us to help their child develop to their full potential.

All children with special needs/disabilities have a right to a broad and well-balanced education.

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We feel it is paramount to find out as much as possible about a particular child's needs, and the way that these affect their educational needs, by:

- liaison with child's parents/carers;
- liaison with any professional agencies and specialist professional colleagues;
- reading any reports that have been prepared;
- attending any review meetings with the local authority;
- regular monitoring of observations undertaken on the child's development.

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Review Date	Name	Position	Signature