



# SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS POLICY

Current Version 1.0

## Special Educational Needs Policy

### AIM

We aim to:

- to welcome and provide appropriate learning opportunities for all children and to have regard to the DFES Code of Practice on the Identification and Assessment of Special Educational Needs. This policy is in line with the SEN Code of Practice 2014, the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA), the Equality Act 2010 and also reflects our Local Offer. Details of our Local Offer are at the end of this policy.

### OBJECTIVES

- The Manager has overall responsibility for the day-to-day management of all aspects of the setting's work including the provision for pupils with special educational needs.
- We will ensure that all children have the same entitlement to a broad based curriculum irrespective of their SEN.
- We will explore all opportunities to provide extra resources to match the child's individual needs using an IEP (Individual Education Plan).
- We will regularly review, with the parents and any appropriate professionals, the child's progress and the way forward, which will ensure a planned coordinated approach for the provision of the child's needs.
- We will provide appropriate opportunities for the development of every child's self-esteem and encourage full integration into the setting.
- We will evaluate the success of the SEN policy by monitoring the progress of children with SEN.
- Appropriate training will be made available and offered to all staff.
- Staff will be encouraged to establish relationships with other settings to share expertise and training.



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- In conjunction with parents, our observations and record keeping will enable us to monitor the child's needs and progress on an individual basis.
- When a need for a child has been identified, and before any further action is taken, there will be full and on-going discussions with parents. Other professional agencies concerned with the child will be consulted, as appropriate. We will consider requesting an Education, Health and Care needs assessment leading on to an Education Health and Care Plan (EHC). The SEN coordinator (SENCo) is responsible for managing this process.
- **The SEN coordinator (SENCo) for St Andrew's Pre-school is Hilary Coome** who is responsible for the day to day operation of the SEN policy.

## LOCAL OFFER

- From September 2014, every Local Authority was required to publish information about services in their area for children and young people from birth to 25 who have special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND); and also services outside of the area which children from their area may use. This is known as the "Local Offer".
- The Local Offer puts all the information about education, health and care services, voluntary agencies, leisure activities and support groups in one place. It has two main purposes:-
  - To provide clear, comprehensive and accessible information about the support and opportunities that are available.
  - To make provision more responsive to local needs.
- The Government says that the Local Offer must be developed and reviewed in partnership with children and young people, parents/carers and local services, including early years' settings, schools, colleges, health and social care agencies.
- Reading has worked in partnership with other Local Authorities in the Berkshire area to deliver a Local Offer which will be consistent as far as possible and which will allow for information sharing across Local Authority boundaries where this is appropriate.



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- The Children and Families Act (2014) introduces many changes to the special educational needs (SEN) system:-
  - A new single plan to replace the statement of special educational needs that will include Education, Health and Social Care.
  - School action and school action plus to be replaced by a new school based category, "Additional SEN Support".
  - A local offer for parents.
  - A new SEN Code of Practice.
  - Personal budgets for those with a single plan.
  - Mediation for parents going to Tribunal.
  - Individual Action Plans to cease.