

Our 'Local Offer' for Special Educational Needs and Disability

The purpose of a local offer is to enable parents and carers to see more clearly what services are available for children with SEND in their area and how to access them. We hope this document provides clear information about what we have already put in place to enable children to achieve their full potential at Severn Beach Preschool. We work within the guidance of the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework (EYFS) and in line with the Special Educational Needs and Disability Code of Practice 0-25 years, 2015. We use these to promote each child's learning and development. We regard each child as being unique and endeavor to meet their individual needs.

Aims and Objectives:

- The Committee and staff will do their best to ensure that the necessary provision is made for any child who has special educational needs. These needs will be made known to all who are likely to work with them by the SENDCo/Manager.
- The Committee and staff of the preschool are aware of the importance of identifying and providing for those children who have special educational needs in line with the Special Educational Needs and Disability Code of Practice 0-25 years.
- We include all children in our provision and make inclusion a thread that runs through all of the activities of the setting.
- The setting SENDCo and Key Person help support parents and children with special educational needs (SEN)/disabilities.
- We identify the specific needs of children with SEN/disabilities and meet those needs through a range of strategies, each child will have an individual Support Plan which will be regularly reviewed.
- We work in partnership with parents and other agencies in meeting individual children's needs.
- We monitor and review our practice and provision and, if necessary, make adjustments.
- We provide a secure environment in which all our children can flourish and in which all contributions are valued.

Responsible Persons:

The responsible person for SEND is Cathie Crew (SENDCo and Manager).

The Nominated Person on the Committee responsible for SEND is Cathie Crew.

How does Severn Beach Preschool know if children need extra help and what should I do, if I think my child may have special educational needs or disabilities?

- Initially, we encourage parents to visit Severn Beach Preschool with their child and share information with us regarding the strengths and needs of the child to create a positive partnership. If you have any concerns at this point, about your child's development, we will discuss this with you and put in place any support required.

- Families will be supported for as long as it takes for your child to settle. We want your child to feel happy and safe with us.
- Each child is allocated a 'key person' who works closely with your child and their family. Through ongoing observation and assessments, linked to the Early Years Foundation Stage, a learning journal will be produced. Any possible individual need identified will then be discussed with you and strategies put in place for your child to achieve their full potential.
- Before your child's third birthday, a Two Year Old Progress Check is carried out which will supply parents/carers with a short written summary of their child's development.
- Reports from Health Care Professionals may identify a child's individual needs and we will include these in your child's learning and development.

How will Severn Beach Preschool staff support my child and what support will there be for my child's overall wellbeing?

- Whilst a 'key person' is allocated, all staff support the wellbeing and needs of children in our care. The SENDCo works with staff to ensure provision is relevant, appropriate and the curriculum has been adapted to meet each individual child's needs.
- Through close relationships with the children and their key person, we make sure that all children feel valued and supported.
- Our ratios comply with the requirements of the EYFS Statutory Framework, however we do try where possible to maintain a lower child to staff ratio to enable more support for children when required.
- Learning journals are available to view at any time on Tapestry. All documentation is kept confidentially.
- Severn Beach Preschool has clear policies and procedures, which are available to read on line or in hard copy, relating to your child's safety and wellbeing.

How will the curriculum be matched to my child's needs and how are resources allocated to meet the requirements of children with Special Educational Needs?

- Through ongoing assessment, we plan for individual children, based on their interests and next steps, ensuring they can access all areas of the provision.
- Weekly planning is differentiated to take account of all children's stages and age of development.
- Our highly qualified staff team ensures children's needs are quickly identified and supported and in turn shared and discussed with parents.
- Where an identified need has been recognised, we use the 'graduated response system' to assess and respond to this by using a step by step approach of intervention levels.
- The SENDCo will explain how children's individual needs can be met by planning support using a written plan.
- The key person and SENDCo will oversee individual targets and monitor progress.
- New targets will be updated regularly by the SENDCo, key person and parents relative to your child's progress.

- The SENDCo will work with all other staff to ensure implementation of the plan and subsequent continuity of Early Years outcomes by everyone.
- We regularly review all our equipment to ensure it supports the Early Years Foundation Stage.
- Where necessary we will access additional funding to provide specialist equipment or source them from other professionals when appropriate.

How will both you and I know how well my child is doing and how can I be involved in their learning?

- Severn Beach Preschool has an 'open door' policy and you are welcome to speak to us at any time about your child's development, however to avoid busy times you may find it easier and more confidential to talk at a pre-arranged meeting.
- We make sure that parents are informed and included at all stages of assessment, planning, monitoring, reviewing and evaluation of your child's progress.
- Parent interviews are offered to provide an opportunity to review your child's progress and learning journal in line with the Early Years Foundation Stage.
- Where appropriate and useful, Severn Beach Preschool uses Home/School Communication Diaries providing practitioners and parents the chance to share relevant information daily.
- Photograph evidence of children's achievements are used to enhance our Learning Journals.
- We also have a parents only Facebook page which is updated daily with photos and clips of the children learning through play.
- We value all parent's views and opinions. We carry out an Annual Questionnaire asking for feedback on our provision so that we can improve our working practice by evaluating these results.

What staff training is in place to support children with SEND?

- Our SENDCo has completed specific SENDCo training and also attend network meetings regularly to keep up-to-date with current policies and procedures and to cascade this information to all staff. If the SENDCo encounters new needs then she will endeavor to find out as much as possible through reading and talking to other professionals to be able to support such needs.
- All staff, as part of their Continuing Professional Development, undertake training to support all children's needs.
- Specific training is matched to an individual child's needs and staff will attend further courses if required.
- Training opportunities provided by other professionals for individual children are welcomed.

What specialist services and expertise is available at or accessed by Severn Beach Preschool?

- Over the years, the SENDCo has gained valuable experience in dealing with children with Special Educational Needs and meeting those requirements. This has included successful referrals for Educational Health Care Plans.
- The SENDCo has attended Team Around the Child (TAC) Meetings and in a previous role was the SENDCo for many of the counties childminders.

- We have formed close links with outside agencies including the Locality Early Intervention Officer, Speech and Language Therapists, Educational Psychologists, the Community Pediatrician and the local Health visitor.

How accessible is Severn Beach Preschool and how will my child be included in all activities?

- Severn Beach Preschool is accessible by wheelchair, with disabled access to main building and outside garden and is therefore accessible to all children. There is however a step down to the garden from the preschool room at present which could be managed with support.
- We will make changes or adapt our facilities, if needed and in line with, an appropriate risk assessment.
- Resources are easily accessible to all children when participating in 'self-chosen' play.
- Any outside trips undertaken are in line with the statutory requirements of the EYFS.
- We support families whose first language is not English. Where necessary additional support from outside agencies is sourced to ensure an inclusive practice.

How will Severn Beach Preschool prepare and support my child to join the setting and transfer to a new setting/school?

- We want children to feel safe and happy in the absence of their parents and to recognise staff as a source of help and friendship as well as authority.
- We aim to make the setting a welcoming place where children settle quickly and easily.
- Consideration is given to the individual needs and circumstance of each child and their family.
- A key person system is operated in line with the Early Years Foundation Stage requirements to ensure parents are regularly informed of how their child has settled and to discuss any concerns.
- Severn Beach Preschool is situated in the grounds and main building of Severn Beach Primary School Primary School and we have good links with the Head Teacher, the reception teacher and supporting staff.
- We invite receiving schools/settings to visit our Preschool to familiarise and observe the children and to share information in partnership with parents.
- We regularly accompany the children on visits to Severn Beach School throughout the year such as attending the Harvest Festival, joining in at sports day and joining them for Christmas dinner.
- Transition meetings are held with other receiving schools and the transition to Severn Beach school is well thought out and robust to ensure a smooth transition for all.
- Individual Transition meetings are held if necessary, with the parents, preschool staff and other relevant professionals to ensure continuity of care and familiarisation of individual needs.
- With parental permission we share all documentation such as Education Health Care Plans.
- During the summer term activities are organised to prepare all children for the transition to school such as changing for PE and doing PE in the big hall, small group 'work' and visits from the reception teacher and Head as well as visiting them.
- For those children requiring additional support for the transition to primary education, a Transition book detailing pictorial photographs of their new environment and teachers can also be provided. This helps to facilitate discussions with parents and their child during the summer holidays.

Who do I contact for further information?

- Your child's key person is always available for advice and support in the first instance.
- Our SENDCo is also always available to offer support and advice.
- We can signpost parents to other professional services such as support groups and Family Information Services that may be able to help.
- If your child's need has been referred to a specific team, we will be able to support parents in accessing their services.