

Safeguarding and Welfare Requirement: Equal Opportunities

Providers must have and implement a policy, and procedures, to promote equality of opportunity for children in their care, including support for children with special educational needs or disabilities.



9.2 Supporting children with SEN

Policy statement

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)
(updated September 2024)
- We have in place a clear approach for identifying, responding to, and meeting children's SEN¹.
- 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 a member of staff to be the Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCO) and give his/her name to parents.

Our SENCO is:

Amy Jowett

Our Deputy SENCO is:

Lee Davison

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- The SENCO works closely with our staff and has responsibility for the day-to-day operation of our Supporting Children with 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 apply SEN support to ensure early identification of children with SEN.
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- We use the graduated approach system (assess, plan, do and 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.
- We provide resources (human and financial) to implement our Supporting Children with Special Educational Needs Policy.
- We ensure that all our staff are aware of our Supporting Children with Special Educational Needs Policy and the procedures for identifying, assessing, and making provision for children with SEN. We provide in-service training for parents, practitioners, and volunteers.
- We raise awareness of our special education provision via our website and or promotional materials.
- 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.
- We provide a complaints procedure.
- We monitor and review our policy annually.

Further guidance

- Early Years Foundation Stage Statutory Framework (DfE 2025)
- Working Together to Safeguard Children (DfE 2018) updated February 2024
- Special Educational Needs and Disability Code of Practice (DfE & DoH 2014) (updated September 2024)
- Equality and Human Rights Commission

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| This policy was adopted by | Jolly Tots Preschool Nursery | (name of provider) |
| on | 1 st September 2025 | (date) |
| Date to be reviewed | September 2026 | (date) |
| Signed on behalf of the provider | <hr/> | |
| Name of signatory | Lee Davison | |
| Role of signatory (e.g., Chair, director, or owner) | Manager | |

Other useful Pre-school Learning Alliance publications

- Guide to the Equality Act and Good Practice (2015)
- SEND Code of Practice for the Early Years (2014) (updated 2024)