

Watery Lane Preschool

Special Educational Needs Policy



Policy statement

Watery Lane Preschool aims to provide an environment in which **all** children, including those 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 (2015, updated 2024).
- We ensure our provision is inclusive to all children with special educational needs.
- We have in place a clear approach for identifying, responding to, and meeting children's SEN adhering to the principles of the Somerset's Graduated Response Tool Early Years Version 2023.
- 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 members of staff to be the Special Educational Needs Co-ordinators (SENCO) and give their name to parents. Our SENCO is:
Becki Ely
- The SENCO works closely with our manager and other colleagues 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.
- 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 2024)
- Working Together to Safeguard Children (DfE 2015 – updated Feb 2017))
- Special Educational Needs and Disability Code of Practice (DfE & DoH 2014 – updated 2015 & 2024)
- Somerset's Graduated Response Tool Early Years version 2023

Links to other Policies

- **Link to: Covid-19 risk assessment and Covid-19 procedures during the coronavirus period**

Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy, Achieving Positive Behaviour Policy, Valuing Diversity and Promoting Equality Policy.

GDPR

A unique Child	Positive Relationships	Enabling environments	Learning and development
1.2 Inclusive Practice	2.1 Respecting Each Other 2.2 Parents as Partners 2.4 Key Person	3.2 Supporting every child. 3.3 The Learning Environment 3.4 The Wider Context	4.1 Play and Exploration 4.2 Active Learning

This policy was adopted at a meeting of **Watery Lane Preschool** on _____

Signed on behalf of management committee _____

Name of signatory _____ Role of signatory _____

Date to be reviewed _____

WLPS Special Educational Needs Policy – Revised January 2025. Effective from adoption date shown at the end.