



Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Policy

At Owls, we prioritise inclusivity and strive to provide a welcoming environment for all children and families, allowing them to develop at their own pace.

If your child has special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) or any learning difficulties that may affect their progress compared to their peers, we have a responsibility to support their development. Our setting is committed to fostering an inclusive atmosphere in accordance with the SEND Code of Practice.

You know your child better than anyone else, and we believe it is vital for you to be actively involved in decisions that impact their development.

What is the SEND Code of Practice?

The SEND Code of Practice is statutory guidance for organisations that work with and support children with special educational needs and disabilities. It sets out duties, policies and procedures relating to Part 3 of the Children and Families Act 2014 and associated regulations, and it applied to England.

The Code of Practice (2014) covers the 0-25 age range. It includes guidance relating to disabled children and young people, as well as those with special educational needs (SEN). Disabled children and young people may not have SEN and are covered by this guidance as well as the Equality Act 2010.

Universal Approach: Meaning for each child

We support your child in several ways; Our practitioners will plan and use a range of experiences and activities to support your child to progress and succeed. Sometimes, children may need extra support in their learning – it may not be that your child has SEN, however it does mean that Practitioners will put in interventions to support your child's development – ensuring their learning is individualised to their needs.

Meet Our Special Educational Needs Co-Ordinators (SENCOs):

Our SENCOs are the members of team that have a passion and drive to develop those children who need extra support in learning. Our SENCOs oversee the process of SEND as well as supporting our Practitioners with any paperwork and support that is needed within the settings.

We have a Special Educational Needs Co-Ordinator in each of our settings.

Graduated Approach: We have a Graduated Approach, where the teams are continually assessing, planning, implementing and reviewing their approach to supporting all children in the setting. Where there may be a potential special education need identified, the process becomes more personalised to the needs of your child.

Assess: We will observe your child and assess what their needs are, so that we can offer and give the right support.

Plan: if we find that your child will need SEND support, we will arrange a meeting with you to put together a **personal learning plan (PLP)** for your child - this plan will have specific targets related to the area of need. There will be reviews every 12 weeks. We will add your child on our SEN register for monitoring or support purposes.

Do: SENCOs support and work with the team, offering support and help put any provision into place

Review: We will plan to review your child's progress after 12 weeks of Personal learning plan intervention cycle. We will arrange a meeting with you. If we feel that your child has not responded as we had hoped, to interventions, we would want to have a collective decision on the next support lines for your child. This may be seeking out for support involving other professionals from external services.

What's the next line of support?

The nursery can make a referral to:

Speech and language

Physiotherapy

Greenwich yearly years inclusion team

Educational Health Care Plan (EHCP)

After several cycles of SEN support with PLP and in line with advice received from the external agencies, we would look to support your child with an Educational Health Care Plan (EHCP)

EHC Plans are for children whose Special Educational Needs and Disabilities require more help than would normally be provided in a mainstream educational setting. EHCP is a legal document in which it is written by the Local Authority, this document describes a child's special educational need and the help that they will need to meet those needs.

Applying for an EHCP:

A request can be made by anyone who thinks an assessment may be necessary, including doctors, health visitors, teachers, parents and carers. You can request an EHCP yourself, however it is beneficial to have professionals supporting you in this journey.

If you have any questions, queries or complaints:

- 1) Please reach out to your Owls Team first, who are always happy to support any queries you may have.*
- 2) If you feel either the team are unable to help you at that current time, the SENCO would be more than happy to support and listen.*
- 3) The next step would be the nursery's Manager.*
- 4) You can contact Quality and compliance lead Aiste via email info@owlsnurseryschool.co.uk*
- 5) If after the steps above you are still dissatisfied with the outcome, you can contact ofsted phoning 03001231231 or emailing them onenquiries@ofsted.gov.uk*