



Silverdale Nursery Our SEN and Disability offer

How does the pre-school/ nursery know if children need extra help and what should I do if I think my child has special educational needs?

All children are offered a home visit and settling in visits before they start attending the nursery which gives you an opportunity to discuss your child's needs. We can then arrange with the necessary outside agencies for any additional support to be in place for when your child starts attending nursery.

When your child starts attending nursery they will be assigned a key worker. The key worker will work closely with you and your child and observe their learning and development in all areas of the EYFS (Early Years Foundation Stage). An initial assessment of each child will be completed within 6 weeks of them starting which will identify any areas of development where your child may need extra help and support.

We have 2 qualified inclusion officers who will be able to support families. Your child's key person or the nursery inclusion officers can arrange meetings to discuss ideas with you and can also liaise with other supportive agencies.

If you think your child may have a special educational need staff are always available to discuss this which is encouraged. The nursery has a qualified SENDCO who is also available to talk to about specific concerns.

How will the pre-school/ nursery support my child with special educational needs?

Your child's key worker will observe your child and plan focused activities around their needs and interests. We will work closely with you so we are taking a consistent approach, aiming for the best outcome for your child. The SENDCO and all other staff will be aware of your child's needs and be available to offer support and help at any time.

Your child will have a Setting Based Support Plan which will be completed and reviewed by you and your child's key worker together every 6 weeks. This timeframe is flexible and reviews can be brought forward if needed.

The nursery works closely with other services which may be able to support your child. We can signpost you to these services or arrange for someone to visit you and your child in the nursery. We can also support you with any referrals to these services and help with arranging any 1:1 support that may be required. If any of these services work with your child, we will organise regular reviews with them to share information and plan next steps.

How is the decision made about what type and how much support my child/ young person will receive?

Practitioners in the nursery use the Early Years Foundation Stage. Practitioners observe children and link this to the EYFS curriculum. Practitioners will complete an Initial Assessment and use both to plan next steps for your child, working with you to do so. Practitioners will use this information, their observations, and your child's interests to plan activities which will support your child's learning and development. We will work closely with you to agree and implement any next steps. Your child would be assessed by isendco and outside agencies if all relevant agencies agree that your child would benefit from additional support, a decision will be made as to what purchase resources or support from an individual needs worker on a 1-1 basis.

How will the pre-school/ nursery review my child's progress and how shall they share it with me?

Practitioners link their focus observations, Unique Child Initial Assessments to the EYFS to see what stage your child's learning and development is at. They then use this information to complete summative and formative assessments. These observations and assessments are shared with families regularly so parents can contribute to planning for their child.

We use language checkers within the nursery to check children are on track with their language and communication. If your child needs support with their communication and language your child's key worker will plan focussed activities to develop this. If your child needs extra support, we can sign post them to other agencies like Toddler Talk which are held at the local Childs centre

Information is shared between families and nursery through informal discussions, parents' evenings 3 times a year, and Superstar Stories. You can talk to the nursery staff at any time about your child's progress and see your child's learning journeys at any time.

What support will there be for my child's overall well-being?

Children's well-being is supported in the nursery through the role of the key person and second key person who will be able to support the individual needs of the children. We carry out activities regularly with the children with an aim to support their well-being through the use of small group work and a range of activities including the emotions board and dolls and sharing books around feelings. We follow children's interests to plan their next steps and also support family customs. Each child's emotional well-being is recorded regularly as part of our planning cycle and we are then able to plan their next steps along with any parent or carer input.

What training do the staff have in supporting children with special educational needs or disabilities?

Practitioners have had the following training:

Child Protection (all staff)

Prevent (all staff)

Paediatric First Aid x6

ISENDCO training x 2

Behavioural management x 6

Autism spectrum x 6

Makaton x 6

Epi pen x 2

Dealing with severe allergy x2

Deaf awareness x2

Deaf awareness training

If needed any additional training staff would undertake before your child starts nursery

How will my child/young person be included in activities outside the pre-school/nursery, including trips?

All children are given the opportunity to go on trips and visits outside the nursery. A ratio of at least one adult for two children is maintained on these visits. Children are able to bring any specialist equipment along with them. Before the children go on the visit a risk assessment will be completed to ensure that the environment and activity is suitable for all. We use Makaton symbols and flashcards within and outside of our setting for children who need additional support with communication.

How accessible is the pre-school/nursery?

All children are given the opportunity to go on trips and visits outside the nursery. A ratio of at least one adult for two children is maintained on these visits. Children are able to bring any specialist equipment along with them. Before the children go on the visit a risk assessment will be completed to ensure that the environment and activity is suitable for all. We use Makaton symbols and flashcards within and outside of our setting for children who need additional support with communication.

How will the pre-school/nursery help my child move on to school?

We support children's transition to school, inviting reception teachers into nursery to meet the children. We also take children to visit their new school a few times before they start. Our staff complete summative and formative assessments for your child and share these with their new school or setting. At nursery we run a ready for school groups, which are small group focussed activities to prepare your child for their move to school, we have a school role play area and the school will learn to dress and undress in school uniforms and PE kits we have school booklets and photos of the school this will help your child visually with getting ready for school

Give us your views about this information

Contact localoffer@eastsussex.gov.uk or call in formation for Families 0345 60 80 192

More information, advice and support

The local off – what is available for children and young people with special educational needs in East Sussex

Information for families (including SEN band disability advice service)

Phone: 0345 60 80 192

Text: 07797 870317

Email informationforfamilies@eastsussex.gov.uk

www.eastsussex.gov.uk/informationforfamilies