



LOCAL OFFER: SILVERDALE NURSERY
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How does your nursery know if children need extra help and what should I do if I think my child may have special educational needs?

The nursery offers good quality care with highly qualified and experienced practitioners. All practitioners have undergone training in identification of Special Education Needs. We nurture supportive relationship with families and children. On registering your child, you will be asked to complete the following forms including: a registration form, medical history, your child's typical routine, likes and dislikes etc. We will also arrange a meeting. All of this information gives us an idea of where your child is developmentally. We listen to you and discuss any concerns you may have regarding your child's development.

We can then arrange with the necessary outside agencies for any additional support to be in place for when your child starts at the nursery. When they start, they will be assigned a key worker. The key worker/person will work closely with you and your child and observe their learning and development in all areas of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). 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 staff who are 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 liaise with other supportive agencies.

How will nursery support my child?

Your child's key worker will observe your child and plan focused activities around your child's 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.

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 will the curriculum be matched to my child's needs?

Practitioners in the nursery use the EYFS to plan a wide range of activities to meet individual children's needs. Practitioners observe children and link this to the EYFS curriculum.

Practitioners will complete an Initial Assessment and use both to plan activities, next steps and your child's interests 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.



How will both you and I know how my child is doing, and how will you help me to support my child's learning?

We have discussions and share information with parents/carers, sharing information about your children's development, interest's and next steps, we have parents' evenings twice times a year. You can talk to the nursery staff at any time and skype calls about your child's progress and see your child's learning journeys on Tapestry at any time. Parent/carers will have regular update/progress meetings with SENDCO.

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.

We offer home learning ideas and activities, which are focussed around your child's needs.

We have a lending library for children to borrow books, physical bag, cooking boxes, gardening bags as well as literacy packs. We also have monthly learning letters, which tell you all about what we are doing in nursery and give suggestions for how to continue this learning at home and information on display for parents

What support will there be for my child's overall wellbeing?

Each child has an allocated key person and a support key person whose role is to work closely with you and your child. This includes supporting your child to settle during visits to the nursery. During their settling in time they will get to know their keyworker and form strong attachments which helps them to feel safe and secure. All children are assessed using the Leuven scales of well-being to measure their levels of emotional well-being and involvement, which are vital to children's learning, development and progress in children. We plan a wide range of group activities, such as emotion boards, dolls and social stories the children to support their well-being. We follow children's interests to plan their next steps and support family customs. Each child's well-being is recorded regularly on each focus/next step as part of our planning cycle.

What specialist services and expertise are available at or accessed by, the nursery?

We have links with:

- ISEND Early Years Team
- Speech and Language Team
- Children's Centre Key Workers
- Health Visitors
- Community Nursery Nurses
- Communication Pathway/Toddler Talk
- Health Active Little ones



As part of a wider organisation we also have links to FSN services including:

- PACT (Parents and Children Together)
- Healthy cooking for the whole family
- Dragonflies bereavement project

What training are the staff supporting children with SEND had or are having?

Our Manager and 3 practitioners are qualified SENDCOs . Additionally, we are able to access wider support from within the organisation, including the Early Years Services Manager. We attend regular support meetings to ensure staff knowledge and skills are up-to-date.

Practitioners have had the following training:

Child Protection, Prevent, FGM, Paediatric First Aid, Behavioural management, Autism spectrum, Makaton, supporting children with Downs's Syndrome, Hearing Impaired Training.

How will my child be included in activities outside the setting including trips?

FSN nurseries are committed to providing inclusive care and education for all children. 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/Communicate print symbols and flashcards within and outside of our setting for children who need additional support with communication.

How accessible and inclusive is the nursery environment?

The nursery is on one level and is wheelchair accessible. There is one wheelchair accessible toilet, the other toilets and sinks are child height for all children to use. The nursery environment is enabled to ensure that it is inclusive to all and that everyone has an equal opportunity to enjoy and achieve. Our displays and resources reflect diversity. We use labels and signs in a variety of languages, books and displays within the setting to ensure everyone feels welcome. We provide multi language registration forms, Language checkers and information.

We also display Makaton signs and communication print symbols around the nursery and practitioners use these with the children. We are also able to access support from the Children's Centre translation service.

How will you prepare and support my child to join the nursery, transfer to a new setting or school or the next stage of education and life?

Before your child starts nursery you will be offered a home visit. This is an opportunity for you to have time to share information with a practitioner who can get to know your child while they are in a familiar environment. All children will be given an information pack at the visit so you can tell us about your child's interests, likes and dislikes. We offer families time to settle their children into the setting, and will be led by you and your child as to how long this process takes. We will be on hand to support your child to separate from you so you feel comfortable leaving your child at nursery. 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 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 ready for school groups, which are small group focussed activities to prepare your child for their move to school.



How are the nursery's resources allocated and matched to children's special educational needs?

The nursery has a good range of interesting resources that are matched to each child's individual learning needs. Your child's additional needs will be assessed by the ISEND team who will support practitioners to meet your child's needs. We can access additional funding to provide resources or staff training that will enhance your child's learning and development. This will be assessed regularly to ensure that your child's needs are met throughout their time with us.

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

The key person, nursery Inclusion Officers and nursery managers will work in partnership with parents and carers to ensure that we gain an in-depth knowledge about your child and to plan the best support possible. We have links with other supportive agencies and we are able to refer families to their services and work in partnership with them to plan the best support for your child. We carry out observations of each child and liaise with parents and carers to share their own findings. We develop links with parents and carers from the beginning of their child's time at Silverdale Nursery. We begin by home visiting which enables us to ask parents and carers if they have any special skills they might like to share with the nursery. Parents and carers are regularly invited in for 'stay and play sessions'.

How are parents involved in the setting? How can I be involved?

We develop links with parents and carers from the beginning of their child's time at Silverdale Nursery. We begin by home visiting which enables us to ask parents and carers if they have any special skills they might like to share with the nursery. Parents and carers are invited in for 'stay and play sessions. Working in partnership with parents and carers practitioners spend time chatting to parents and carers at handovers. We use nursery contact books and we ask for parents and carers contributions of ideas towards their child's learning. We are happy for parents to share learning ideas, their child's interests and experiences. Parents, carers and family members are welcome to help out on trips and outings to the locality. We hold parent and carer evenings throughout the year to ensure parent kept up to date with their child's learning.

Who can I contact for further information?

If you require any further information, please contact: Silverdale Nursery
Telephone: 01424 435895 Mobile 07935234154 e-mail: silverdalenursery@fsncharity.co.uk

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

- www.eastsussex.gov.uk/localoffer