



Special Educational Needs/ Inclusion Policy

The Aims

We welcome children with special educational needs as part of our community. We recognise that we will need to consider the individual needs of the children when planning our curriculum and we aim to provide a curriculum which is accessible to the individual needs of all our children. The Montessori method and equipment proving great tools in which to do so.

We recognise the importance of the early identification and assessment of children with special educational needs. This is particularly important in the area of early years education. We will develop practises and procedures, which we will aim to ensure that all the children's special educational needs, are identifies and assessed and the curriculum will be planned to meet their needs.

We recognise the vital role of parents/carers in the identification, assessment and response to their children's special needs. We will work in true partnership with parents/ carers valuing their views and contributions and keeping them fully involved in their child's education.

We believe in the involvement of the child and the importance of taking their views into account. We will make every effort to involve the child in decision making about their special educational provision.

We are committed to effective collaboration between agencies working with a child and a multi-disciplinary approach to meeting children's special educational needs. We will actively support the establishment and maintenance of close links with an agencies working with the child.

Details

At Tam's House our Special Needs Coordinator is Tamsyn Parry. She is responsible for the day to day provision for the children with SEN. Together with the key workers in our setting, our SENCO maintains and and oversees all records for children with SEN. The SENCO will liaise with other staff about children's needs and will liaise with outside agencies such as health, eduction and social services regarding the needs of children, always after consultation with parents/carers.

Our Admission Arrangements for children with Special Educational Needs

Children with special educational needs are welcomed into Tam's House as are all our children. We may ask parents to give us further details of professionals involved with their child. When we know that a child may have a special educational need or disability before they start we will endeavour to set up a good transition for that child in our setting involving child parent/carers and any outside professionals known to the child. This may involve the child visiting our setting a number of times and/or a home visit by one of our members of staff.

The Role of the Parent

We work in partnership with parents. We recognise that parents/carers know their children best and have a great deal to contribute. Parents/carers views and contributions are valued. In addition we can offer parents/ carers:

- an open door policy which means parents can approach staff whenever they have a concern and time will be made for them.
- scheduled meetings for parents to meet and discuss their child's progress.

- opportunities for parents/carers to come and work or observe their child in the group.

Children's views

We always seek views of all the children with regard to their education and inclusion, that is the Montessori way. We involve all children in their learning by offering choices using objects, photographs, verbal meanings etc. All children are encouraged to express preferences using a variety of methods including augmented methods of communication. We seek all children's views in decision making about their learning environment.

The Curriculum

Children with SEN are regarded as full members of our community and we offer an inclusive provision to all our children. All children have full access to the environment, resources, staff and activities. Children with SEN engage in the activities on offer in our setting together with children who do not have identified SEN. The curriculum is planned to meet the known individual needs of all the children and our careful choice of resources with the Montessori equipment in particular, is made to facilitate access and a concrete experience to the curriculum for all the children. Adapting our teaching methods and materials to help children with different individual needs to learn.