

SPECIAL NEEDS POLICY

Footprints Pre school Playgroup aims to have regard to the Department for Education Code of Practice on special educational needs and also to the guidelines supplied to private and voluntary providers of pre-school education. We aim to provide appropriate learning opportunities for all children.

- Children with special needs, like all other children, are admitted to Footprints after discussion between parents and the pre-school leaders.
- Our aim is to provide for the developmental needs of each individual child in the group.
- All children in the group, irrespective of their special needs, are encouraged wherever possible and appropriate to participate in all the group's activities.
- Our systems of observation and record keeping, with regards to the EYFS framework which operate in conjunction with parents, enables us to monitor children's needs and progress individually.
- The needs and progress of children who have special educational needs are monitored by our group's special educational needs co-ordinator (SENCO).
- Our key worker system ensures that each child receives plenty of adult time and attention.
- We work closely with the parents of all the children in the group to ensure that:
 - the group draws upon the knowledge and expertise of parents in planning provision for the child
 - The child's progress and achievements are shared and discussed with parents on a regular basis.
 - Parents are aware of the arrangements for the admission and integration of children with special educational needs .

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- If it is felt that a child's needs cannot be met in Footprints without additional personnel and/or equipment, every effort will be made to rectify this.
- We work in liaison with relevant professionals and agencies outside the group to meet children's specific needs.
- Our staff attend, whenever possible, in-service training on special needs arranged by the Pre-school Learning Alliance and other professional bodies.
- **The named person responsible for Special Needs is Anne Herat**

Date reviewed.....2nd October 2008.

Signed.....

.....8th February 2010

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