



www.penhillplaygroup.org.uk

Additional Support Needs Policy and Practice

At Penhill Playgroup, we would like all children to have appropriate opportunities to learn through play and for all families to feel welcome at the setting, regardless of special needs or disabilities. We endeavour to have an inclusive policy at all times and have developed this Policy with regard to the Special Educational Needs Code of Practice (2014) and the Equality Act (2010).

- Consultation between parents/carers, Manager, SENCO and outside agencies, where appropriate, will plan the admission and settling in programme for each individual child.
- If Playgroup staff have any concerns regarding a child, these will be discussed with the parent/carer in the first instance, unless there is an immediate safeguarding concern.
- The playgroup will try and address any identified problems, in consultation with the parents/carers, using its own resources, before gaining permission from the parents/carers to make a referral to other agencies for extra help, support or advice
- Children's progress and needs will be monitored, supported and reviewed by the playgroup staff, at least termly, in consultation with parents/carers and other professionals, where appropriate, which may include speech therapists, educational psychologists, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, paediatricians, social workers and health visitors.
- Staff will attend relevant training to ensure that they keep up to date with the requirements of all children with additional support needs and with regard to specific conditions and disabilities.
- For children with complex needs, Playgroup will follow the graduated response, as above, but, if necessary, will, with parental permission, refer or encourage parents to refer their child for an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) and to the Early Years Planning and Review Meeting (EYPARM).
- Staff will liaise closely with and learn from parents and appropriate professionals about the particular specific needs and approaches to use for individual children.
- The SENCO/INCO will provide support and information for staff and parents/carers regarding children with Special Educational Needs or Disabilities and, where appropriate and possible, signposting to other support services and organisations.
- We will update our Local Offer biannually and keep it available to view on our website or on paper, by request.