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## SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS & DISABILITIES

### **POLICY OBJECTIVES**

Tiny Tots Ltd is committed to the inclusion of all children. All children have the right to be cared for and educated to develop to their full potential alongside each other through positive experiences. This enables them to share opportunities and experiences and develop and learn from each other. We provide a positive and welcoming environment where children are supported according to their individual needs.

### **POLICY APPLICATION**

This policy will be available to staff, parents and other professionals.

### **INTRODUCTION**

The nursery is committed to working alongside parents in the provision for their child's individual needs to enable us to help the child to develop to their full potential. The nursery is committed to working with any child who has a specific need and/or disability to enable every child to make full use of the nursery's facilities. All children have a right to a broad and well-balanced early learning environment.

We feel it is paramount to find out as much as possible about a particular child's condition and the way that may affect his/her early learning or care needs by:

- Liaising with the child's parents
- Liaising with any professional agencies
- Reading any reports that have been prepared
- Attending any review meetings with the local authority/professionals
- Regularly monitoring observations carried out on the child's development



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All children will be given a full settling in period when joining the nursery according to their individual needs.

#### **AIMS**

#### We will:

- Include all children and their families in our provision according to the nursery's ability to provide the facilities for the welfare of the child, including appropriate staffing arrangements.
- Recognise each child's individual needs and ensure all staff are experienced in the care of children with additional needs.
- Provide staff with specific training relating to Special Educational Needs and disabilities (SEND) and the SEN Code of Practice to help support parents and children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities.
- Identify the specific needs of children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities and meet those needs through a range of strategies.
- Monitor and review our practice and provision and, if necessary, make adjustments, and seek specialist equipment and services if needed.
- Ensure that all children are treated as equals and are encouraged to take part in every aspect of the nursery day according to their individual needs and abilities.
- Promote positive images and role models during play experiences of those with additional needs wherever possible.
- Celebrate diversity in all aspects of play and learning.
- Work in partnership with parents and other agencies in order to meet individual children's needs, including the health and education authorities, and seek advice, support and training where required.



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#### RESPONSIBLE PERSON

Our nursery Special Education Needs Co-ordinator (SENCO) is Emma Berryman. She works closely with all staff to make sure there are systems in place to plan, implement, monitor, review and evaluate the special educational needs policy of the nursery, always making sure plans and records are shared with parents.

#### **METHODS**

#### We will:

- Make our policy for SEND available on our website or parents can request a copy from the office, outlining how we provide for children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities.
- Ensure that our physical environment is as far as possible suitable for children and adults with disabilities.
- Ensure that the provision for children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities is the responsibility of all members of staff in the nursery.
- Provide in-service training for practitioners and volunteers as part of continued professional development.
- Provide a broad and balanced early learning environment for all children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities.
- Provide differentiated activities to meet all individual needs and abilities.
- Assess a child's progress in the three Prime Areas. If there is a cause for concern regarding development in one or more of these areas, practitioners will discuss this with the child's parent/carers and the SENCo.
- Carry out a progress check at age two within the Prime Areas which will help to identify any concerns.



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- Use the graduated response system for assessing, planning, implementing and reviewing children's special educational needs.
- Use a system for keeping records of the assessment, planning, provision and review for children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities.
- Use a system of planning, implementing, monitoring, evaluating and reviewing Interventions for children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities.
- Review Interventions on a termly basis and hold review meetings with parents at this time.
- Ensure that parents are informed at all stages of the assessment, planning, provision and review of their child's education.
- Work closely with parents of children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities to create and maintain a positive partnership.
- Provide parents with information on sources of independent advice and support.
- · Complete and publish the 'Local Offer'
- Liaise with other professionals involved with children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities and their families, including transfer arrangements to other settings and schools. We work closely with the next care setting and meet with them to discuss the child's needs to ensure information exchange and continuity of care.
- Ensure the privacy of children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities when intimate care is being provided.
- Use a Common Assessment Framework (CAF) where needed.
- Ensure the effectiveness of our SEND provision by collecting information from a range of sources e.g. Intervention reviews, staff and management meetings, parental and external agencies' views, inspections and complaints. This information is collated, evaluated and reviewed annually.



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- Provide a complaints procedure and make available to all parents.
- Monitor and review our policy annually.

### SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS CODE OF PRACTICE

It is the duty of the nursery to carry out our statutory duties to identify, assess and make provision for children's special educational needs. The Code of Practice recommends that our nursery should adopt a graduated approach to assessment through a system of Assess, Plan, Do and Review. Children that are identified with SEN will be deemed as having 'SEN Support'. Good practice of working together with parents, and the observation and monitoring of children's individual progress, will help identify any child with special educational needs. The SENCO will work alongside parents to assess the child's strengths and plan for future support. The SENCO will ensure that appropriate records are kept according to the Code of Practice.

#### INTERNAL USE ONLY

This policy was adopted on	17/11/17
Signed on behalf of the nursery	
Signed and dated by nursery staff	
Date of review	