GEMS TINEY HOME NURSERY

HOME FROM HOME CHILDCARE

# Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Policy

## Purpose and responsibility

We identify barriers and provide support so children with special educational needs or disabilities can participate at Gems tiney Home Nursery. Gemma Bayley coordinates SEND support with parents, assistants, tiney and relevant professionals. As a funded early education provider we have regard to the SEND Code of Practice and meet our Equality Act and current EYFS duties.

## Early identification

We learn about each child's strengths, interests, communication, routines and needs from parents, everyday observation and required developmental checks. Concerns are discussed sensitively and recorded factually. We consider hearing, health, home language and wider circumstances and do not diagnose a condition.

Support starts according to need without waiting for a diagnosis, funding award or education, health and care plan. English as an additional language is not itself a special educational need. We listen to the child through their words, behaviour, choices and preferred communication.

## Assess plan do review

We use the graduated approach: assess the child's strengths and difficulties, plan clear outcomes and strategies with parents, put them into daily practice and review the effect. An individual support plan records what will help, who will do it, any resources or training required and the review date.

Plans are normally reviewed at least termly and sooner if needed. We recognise small steps and adjust support when it is not helping, rather than repeatedly apply an ineffective approach. Relevant assistants know how to implement the plan consistently.

## Inclusion and reasonable adjustments

We adapt communication, routines, activities and the environment using approaches suited to the child, such as visual prompts, quieter spaces, movement breaks, sensory adjustments or different equipment. We consider access, meals, personal care, sleep, outings and evacuation as part of planning.

We do not refuse a place solely because a child has SEND or is not toilet trained. Parents lead toilet training at home and we support established plans, with reasonable adjustments and appropriate personal care. Behaviour is considered as communication and support protects dignity and wellbeing.

Families are not charged for reasonable adjustments we are legally required to make or for required SEND support as a condition of funded entitlement. We discuss relevant inclusion funding and advice where appropriate. Decisions about safe care consider the individual circumstances, adjustments and available support rather than assumptions about a diagnosis.

## Families professionals and transitions

Parents are central partners and receive clear information about observations, plans and progress. With appropriate parental involvement and consent for ordinary referrals, we seek advice from health visitors, speech and language therapists, occupational therapists, local inclusion services or other professionals as relevant.

If difficulties remain significant despite appropriate support, we discuss further advice and possible education, health and care needs assessment routes. An assessment request does not stop existing support. We share relevant information securely with other settings and schools to support continuity and explain the arrangements to parents.

Confidentiality is maintained, but consent does not prevent necessary lawful safeguarding sharing or statutory action. Children's information is accessible only to those who need it for an authorised purpose.

## Training concerns and review

Gemma guides assistants through induction, supervision and relevant SEND training. Families can discuss concerns with Gemma, use the Complaints Policy and seek tiney or Surrey SEND advice. Feedback and outcomes guide improvements.

Reviewed annually or sooner if needs, law or guidance change. References: current EYFS childminder framework; SEND Code of Practice 0 to 25 years; Equality Act 2010; Children and Families Act 2014; current Surrey inclusion and Local Offer information.

Policy owner: Gemma Bayley
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