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**SEND Policy**

# Ethos Statement

At Denton Island Nursery we provide a **fun**, **vibrant,** **messy** environment in which our **long serving**, **loyal** and **friendly** staff team provide children **rich opportunities** for **challenge and risk**, **learning though play** and from experiencing the **natural** and **social** world around them **building future foundations**.

We work to create an **inclusive** nursery learning environment where every child is **supported** to achieve their **unique potential** regardless of their differential abilities, starting points or diversities. This involves developing a **consistent partnership** between us and the families along with any additional supporting services.

# Statement of Intent

We believe in inclusion as a basic right for every child and their families. Our nursery is committed to ensuring that every child has the opportunity to reach their full potential and to feel valued, accepted and respected for who they are.

Each child will experience a unique path of learning and development whilst at the nursery with us and regardless of difference in ability, learning style or need our staff team will work to create a positive and fun learning journey for every child who attends our setting.

We observe each child’s interests and assess their individual needs, then using what they can do as the starting point we plan a ‘next step’ experience to move them forward at their own pace and in their own way.

We will work with our families to help access the best support package we can to ensure each child has full access to our provision with the help and support of partner agencies.

# Nursery SENCO team

Our special educational needs co-ordinator’s (**SENCO**) is Christelle Harris and she will be the main port of call for all our nursery families whose children have SEND needs. Christelle is supported by Sarah Cockram, the nursery manager who is also SENCO trained. The SENCO’s role is to specifically support children with SEN and their families to ensure they can access the full nursery provision and achieve their full and unique potential.

The nursery EYP Michelle Reid has a degree in Developmental Psychology and is also available to support the SENCO’s and staff team in the planning of next step provision.

# Methods

The nursery has developed a number of methods and approaches to help support children with a variety of specific requirements, such as SEN, a child with a disability or specific medical requirement rights of access using the following methods:

* We work within the SEND code of practice legislation and good practice guidance,
* We work to ensure that the provisionoffered is inclusive of children with special educational needs and children with disabilities or health conditions as described in our EQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITY, INCLUSION AND DIVERSITY POLICY;
* We work with families to ensure the needs of the child always remain at the heart of the provision the nursery offers;
* We work in partnership with families and outside agencies (e.g. ISEND, Integrated Services, SALT, OT, HV) to ensure the SBSP’s and the needs of every child with a specific requirement are met;
* We create an action plan to ensure that children with disabilities can participate successfully in the services offered by the nursery and in the provisionoffered;
* We support all staff to support the Setting Based Support Plans of children with additional requirements;
* We apply for funding for children with additional requirements when needed to support one-to-one times or to access special equipment or staff training requirements
* We have detailed staff guidelines to help support staff in understanding SEND and in providing a rich learning environment and inclusive education and care
* Our whole staff team are continuously updating and extending their training on all aspects of child development including SEND.