

## **Home-grown in Malvern** **Special Educational Needs Policy**

Our aim is to treat all children as individuals and to consider their individual needs in each case. We expect parents to discuss in full the nature of any disability or specific needs pertaining to children who are to be placed in our care, and this must be an ongoing discourse.

Whilst aiming to be aware of specific syndromes and conditions we will endeavor to refrain from stereotyping children with special needs and to avoid making negative assumptions about their potential development. All children in our care will be encouraged to fulfill their potential through activities planned to suit their individual stage of development.

All members of staff will observe and monitor individual children's progress throughout the Foundation Stage through the use of observations and personal pathway profiles for each child. Where a child appears not to be making progress either generally or in a specific area of learning, we will present them with different opportunities or use alternative ways of learning. If we identify or suspect that a child has special education needs, or needs more support with their learning, then we will offer support as outlined in the Special Educational Needs Code of Practice (Additional SEN Support Plan). We will discuss the observations made and any proposed plans with parents in a way that encourages them to contribute their understanding and knowledge of their child; this also allows them to raise any concerns they may have about their child's needs and the provision that is being made for them.

With permission from parents, we will use Individual Education Plans (IEPs). These plans record information about short term targets set for the child, the support strategies members of staff will put in place to support the child. The plans will be reviewed monthly to monitor the outcomes of the action taken, and seek the views from parents on their child's progress. We will seek support from other professionals and if necessary refer the case, however we will always discuss this situation with the child's parents, as the needs of the child/children are paramount.

All staff will continue to develop their knowledge of special educational needs by attending training where possible, and work with other professionals if necessary in order to provide specific support for the child.

Should we feel that our service does not meet the needs of a particular child, in that we cannot offer the level of care or commitment need by that child, we reserve the right to inform the parents that we cannot offer a place.

If you have any concerns regarding this policy please speak to a member of staff.

Signed:

Date Reviewed: