Downham Preparatory School & Montessori Nursery

Equality of opportunity

General Welfare Requirement: Safeguarding and Promoting Children's Welfare
The provider must take necessary steps to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.

1.17 Supporting children with special educational needs

Policy statement

We provide an environment in which all children, including those with special educational needs, are supported to reach their full potential.

- We have regard for the DfES Special Educational Needs Code of Practice.
- We ensure our provision is inclusive to all children with special educational needs.
- We support parents and children with special educational needs (SEN).
- We identify the specific needs of children with special educational needs and meet those needs through a range of SEN strategies.
- We work in partnership with parents and other agencies in meeting individual children's needs.
- We monitor and review our policy, practice and provision and, if necessary, make adjustments.

Procedures

- We designate a member of staff to be the Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCO) and give her name to parents. Our SENCO is Miss Tighe- Head of Early Years, Key 1 &2 teacher who works alongside the Nursery Supervisor- Miss Feltwell
- We ensure that the provision for children with special educational needs is the responsibility of all members of the setting.
- We ensure that our inclusive admissions practice ensures equality of access and opportunity.
- We use the graduated response system for identifying, assessing and responding to children's special educational needs.
- We work closely with parents of children with special educational needs to create and maintain a positive partnership.
- We ensure that parents are informed at all stages of the assessment, planning, provision and review of their children's education.
- We provide parents with information on sources of independent advice and support.
- We liaise with other professionals involved with children with special educational needs and their families, including transfer arrangements to other settings and schools.
- We provide a broad, balanced and differentiated curriculum for all children with special educational needs.
- We use a system of planning, implementing, monitoring, evaluating and reviewing Support plans (SPs) for children with special educational needs.
- We ensure that children with special educational needs are appropriately involved at all stages
 of the graduated response, taking into account their levels of ability.
- We have systems in place for supporting children during Support plan and EHCP Education Health & Care Plan (former known as the statementing process).
- We use a system for keeping records of the assessment, planning, provision and review for children with special educational needs.
- We provide resources (human and financial) to implement our Special Educational Needs Policy.
- We provide in-service training for parents, practitioners and volunteers.

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- We raise awareness of any specialism the setting has to offer, e.g. Dyslexia, Dyscalculia and Irlen Syndrome trained staff.
- We ensure the effectiveness of our special educational needs provision by collecting information from a range of sources e.g. Support Plan reviews, staff and management meetings, parental and external agency's views, inspections and complaints. This information is collated, evaluated and reviewed annually.
- We provide a complaints procedure.
- We monitor and review our policy annually.

This policy was adopted at a meeting of	DPSM	name of setting
Held on	March 2021	(date)
Date to be reviewed	March 2022	
Signed on behalf of the management		
committee		
Name of signatory	E.J. Laffeaty-Sharpe	
Role of signatory (e.g. chair/owner)	Principal /Proprietor	