



## **Special Educational Needs (SEN) Policy**

Pegwell Bay Nursery is committed to the inclusion of all children and to supporting their individual needs. We welcome children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and are dedicated to enabling every child to develop to their full potential in a safe, nurturing, and inclusive environment.

We recognise our duties under the Children and Families Act 2014, the SEND Code of Practice (2015), the Equality Act 2010, and the Data Protection Act 2018 (UK GDPR). We are fully committed to promoting equality of opportunity, eliminating discrimination, and removing barriers to participation for children with SEND.

We have two designated Special Educational Needs Coordinators (SENCOs): Anita Jones (SENCO) and Millie Bligh (Deputy SENCO). Both are trained and experienced in coordinating SEND provision and act as the main point of contact for families, staff, and external agencies.

We aim to identify and respond to children's individual needs as early as possible. All children have the right to a broad, balanced, and developmentally appropriate curriculum, and we ensure all children are included and valued within the setting, regardless of their needs. Children with SEND are supported through individualised strategies and interventions. We involve parents and carers fully in decisions about their child's care, learning, and support and work collaboratively with external professionals and services. We also promote equality, respect diversity, and ensure reasonable adjustments are made to support inclusion.

Early identification of additional needs is vital. If staff observe concerns, they are encouraged to complete a SENCO concerns form. The SENCO will observe the child, liaise with parents and carers, gather information, and implement early intervention strategies. If necessary, referrals will be made to relevant professionals, such as speech and language therapists or specialist teaching services.

Where a child's needs are more complex, the SENCO will support the family through the process of requesting an Education, Health and Care Needs Assessment. If an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) is issued, the nursery will contribute to the assessment process and implement the provisions outlined in the EHCP. The child will receive tailored support in line with the plan, and progress will be reviewed regularly in partnership with the local authority and the family.

We believe in building strong partnerships with parents and carers. We share concerns early and work collaboratively to create support plans and review progress. Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in all decisions about their child's learning and development.

Pegwell Bay Nursery provides an inclusive and accessible environment for all children. We make reasonable adjustments to accommodate any physical, sensory, or learning needs,



regularly assess our environment, and provide ongoing staff training in inclusive practices. We promote positive attitudes toward disability and diversity and actively challenge discrimination or stereotyping.

All information relating to a child's SEND is treated confidentially and in line with our Data Protection Policy. Records are stored securely and only shared with appropriate professionals with parental consent. We comply fully with the UK GDPR and the Data Protection Act 2018.

Support strategies and individual plans are reviewed termly with parents. The SENCO monitors children's progress and maintains an up-to-date SEND register. This policy is reviewed annually to reflect current legislation and best practice.

Children with SEND are offered a personalised settling-in period based on their needs. Transitions between rooms or to school are carefully planned, with transition meetings, shared reports, and gradual introductions to new environments.

This policy reflects the requirements of the Children and Families Act 2014, the SEND Code of Practice (2015), the Equality Act 2010, the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework (2024), the Data Protection Act 2018, and Working Together to Safeguard Children (2018).