



The Athelstan Nursery

Our SEN and Disability offer

How does the pre-school/ nursery know if children need extra help and what should I do if I think my child has special educational needs?

All children are allocated a keyperson who will be their main career and first point of daily contact. Should they not be available the nursery operate a shared key person system.

During your settling in period, which is tailed to meet individual needs your keyperson will complete an all about me section on in their learning journal, this provides opportunity to discuss interests and any concerns.

You will be asked to share your child's red health book and 2year integrated progress report if your child has had one. These are completed by your health visitor between 27-30mths and are often the first indication of any concerns. We encourage all parents to share concerns verbally to your keyperson so that they can be addressed and children referred promptly when needed. We have regular parent consultations throughout the year.

Your key person will undertake regular observations and assessments in line with the Early Years Foundation Stage which are used to track your child progress during their time at the nursery this is recorded on their electronic learning journal which is shared with parents/careers regularly. These observations and assessments feed into their summative judgements 3 times a year which may highlight any developmental delay or extra help your child may need to reach their full potential.

Additional observations and assessments may be taken if areas for concern are identified, and a setting based plan will be put in place and shared with you.

The nursery benefits from highly qualified practitioners and 2 practitioners who are trained SENCO level, (Special, Educational, Needs Co-ordinator).

How will the pre-school/ nursery support my child with special educational needs?

All children's progress is tracked, the management team and SENCO meet regularly to discuss individual children and the progress they are making. Should your child be identified as needing additional support you will be invited to discuss a setting-based plan. This will involve setting achievable targets to help your child develop.

This will be tailored to meet individual interests and reviewed and supported by your child's keyperson monthly. You will have frequent opportunity to meet with the SENCO and keyperson to discuss the progress your child is making.

The nursery may need to seek additional support or services from outside agencies such as early year's advisors and Speech and Language therapists. This will form part of their setting-based plan and help support them to reach their full potential. It may involve them visiting the setting to undertake additional observations and assessments.

As a nursery we review the effectiveness of our provision through continuous evaluation, meeting with parents regularly and through multi agency meetings.

What support will there be for my child's overall well being?

The Athelstan nursery aim to attain the highest possible outcomes for all children, where inclusion of all learners is paramount as set out in our nursery vision statement. The setting policies and procedures ensure that the provision provided is safe and that all children feel secure and valued and that practitioners work effectively in partnership with parents to meet children's individual needs. You can find full policies and procedures within the nursery which you are asked to read as part of your child's settling in.

What training do the staff have in supporting children with special educational needs or disabilities?

All staff are highly qualified Early Years Practitioners and have had experience of working with children needing additional support whether this be medical or educational. All staff are familiar with setting based plans and are supported by the 2 trained SENCOs within the setting. The nursery is well supported by Early Years advisors and local Children's Centre and regularly complete ECAT forms and language checkers. All

staff use Makaton as part of the daily routine and during communications with children.

How will my child/young person be included in activities outside the pre-school/ nursery, including trips?

As part of your registration you will be asked consent for your child to take part in walks or nursery outings. All children who have been identified as having significant developmental or medical needs will be on a ratio of 1 adult to 1 child and additional consent will be requested on the day. Nursery outings which involve large numbers of children such as a trip to the farm parents are required to accompany their children.

How accessible is the pre-school/ nursery?

The nursery benefits from being on 1 level, and easily accessible from the road/pavement. It is a quiet residential area with street parking.

The garden is enclosed and flat with low level decking areas. Toilets are low level and promote independence, the adult toilet is accessible for those with limited mobility. Adaptions within the nursery can be made to accommodate individual needs.

To help you and your child to communicate when English is not your first language we endeavour to translate documents and offer additional support to enable your child to achieve to their full potential. During our settling in process we do ask that key words in home language are shared e.g. Hello, yes, No, please and thank you.

How will the pre-school/nursery help my child move on to school?

The nursery drive to ensure strong partnerships with parents, careers, professionals and future schools. Teachers are encouraged to attend the nursery to visit children leaving for school and for those children who have been identified as needing additional support teachers are invited in addition to this to discuss the child's individual needs in depth. Keyperson forms part of the transition to school and will support the parent and child through this time, this may involve them visiting the school with the child. Summative assessments are completed and sent to the school with any other assessments and supporting documents.

Give us your views about this information

Contact localoffer@eastsussex.gov.uk or call Information for Families
0345 60 80 192

More information, advice and support

The local offer- what is available for children and young people with special educational needs in East Sussex

- www.eastsussex.gov.uk/localoffer

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