

## 1) How does Arlesdene Nursery School and Pre-school know if children need extra help and what should I do if I think my child may have special educational needs?

### **All Children:**

- \* Have a home visit before starting the Nursery, this may identify any additional need
- \* Are given a Key person and are treated as individuals
- \* Are observed and their progress is recorded in a personal *Learning Journal*, this enables us to identify pupils who may benefit from extra support as early as possible. "Early action is critical to the future progress & improved outcomes, essential in helping children prepare for adult life" (**SEND Code of Practice 2015**)
- \* Have their progress monitored by the Senior Leadership Team termly
- \* Are included on the `Provision Map` which specify support then offered to all, some and few children

### **Some Children:**

- \* May need additional assessment to identify gaps in learning such as the **Early Support Development Journal** and **Wellcomm** which supports Speech & Language Development
- \* Have additional professionals that identify and support individual needs, such as Health Visitors, Speech & Language therapists and/or occupational health team

### **A Few Children:**

- \* May be referred to the Family Centre for additional support
- \* May be referred to Herts Integrated Services for Learning (ISL) which includes Communication Autism Team, Early Years SEND Team, Educational Psychologists, and Sensory/Physical Needs Team.
- \* If you have a concern about your child's development/progress in Pre-school please speak to your child's Key Person and/or Craig Nottingham Pre-School Leader. When in nursery and you have a concern again your child's key person and/or Claire Cobain the Headteacher and SENCo.

## 2) How will Arlesdene Nursery School and Pre-school staff support my child?

The **SEND Code of Practice (2015)** states a "graduated approach with 4 stages of action: **Assess, Plan, Do, Review**" is the best way to work with parents to meet a child's needs.

### **All Children:**

- \* Start their *Learning Journal* with information from home
- \* are provided with `**High Quality Teaching**`
- \* have access to experienced staff who are Early Years trained
- \* have a `key person` who will build a solid relationship with your child, ensuring individual needs/interests are planned for
- \* have access to a Sensory room
- \* are taught strategies to support communication e.g. Makaton & visual routines

### **Some Children:**

- \* are assessed using the `**Early Support Development Journal**`
- \* May have an '*Individual Learning Plan*'. Working in partnership with, setting &

reviewing targets and giving you ideas to support your child at home.

- \* May need a different approach to learning
- \* May be signposted to the Family Centre for support

**A Few Children:**

- \* Will transfer into Rainbow room, which meets the needs of our children with high Special Educational Needs and Disabilities
- \* Will be referred to Herts Integrated Services for Learning (ISL) which includes the Communication Autism team, Early Years SEND Team, Speech & Language Therapists & Educational Psychologist.
- \* Will have an Education and Health Care Plan
- \* Will require an adult to work 1-1 to support learning
- \* Will receive `High Needs Needs Funding`
- \* Will have access to a Nurture group twice weekly where individual needs will be met using the Boxall Profile.
- \* Will have their information shared in a confidential manner

### 3) How will I know how my child is doing?

**All Children:**

- \* Are assessed against the school's curriculum goals
- \* Have a focus weeks and learning stories that contains observations and photographs of your child's progress. This is shared with you on a regular basis.
- \* Progress is shared with parents at the end of focus weeks and relevant next steps are shared
- \* Are welcomed into the setting with parents/carers, informal information may be shared during daily contact with your child's Key person

**Some Children:**

- \* Have a 2-year development report
- \* May have a home/school book for communication between home/school
- \* Have regular review meetings to discuss progress and review targets in their `Individual Learning Plan`
- \* Children's families may have regular Early Support Team Around the Family meetings

**A Few Children:**

- \* Will have regular meetings and contact from the SENCo to ensure their child is receiving the best support
- \* Will have visits and reports from outside professionals who are working with your child

### 4) How will the learning and development provision be matched to my child's needs?

**All Children:**

- \* Have experienced staff supporting learning through playful experiences
- \* Work in a purposeful organised environment that promotes independence and problem solving

- \* Follow routines and take part in small group activities that are differentiated to match needs
- \* Follow a visual timetable
- \* Have access to high quality, stimulating resources inside and outside
- \* Have their achievements celebrated and their work displayed
- \* Are taught basic `Makaton` signing
- \* Have access to a quiet area within the sensory room

**Some Children:**

- \* May have a `Learning Plan` with regular meetings to discuss progress and next steps
- \* Have individual visual timetables and `now/next` boards
- \* Have more flexibility within the routine
- \* May have additional small group sessions or individual work e.g. speech and language
- \* Are included on the Provision Map, which is updated Termly
- \* May be included on the SEND register
- \* Have specific resources to match their interest and learning style

**A Few Children:**

- \* Will transfer into Rainbow room, which meets the needs of our children with high Special Educational Needs and Disabilities
- \* Will have an application made for an Education and Health Care Plan.
- \* Will be working with outside professionals and have 1-1 support
- \* Will have specific aids provided or recommended by outside agencies

**The Headteacher/ SENCo will seek additional training for staff to meet specific needs**

## 5) What support will there be for my child's overall wellbeing?

**All Children:**

- \* Have access to a qualified teacher who leads a team of qualified and experienced staff
- \* Have a Key Person so that staff build excellent relationships with their key children
- \* Learn in a setting that is welcoming and friendly, that promotes inclusion for all and a positive `can do` atmosphere
- \* Are valued for their strengths and any achievements, no matter how small are celebrated
- \* Work with practitioners who provide positive role models and are consistent in their approach
- \* Have safe quiet areas to retreat to inside and outside, if they are tired or just need time alone
- \* Are encouraged to have regular attendance
- \* Have dietary needs catered for
- \* Have access to planned activities promoting Personal, Social and Emotional development
- \* Have their levels of Well Being and Involvement assessed within observations using `Ferre Laevers` scales. If concerns are noted, we will liaise with parents to agree next steps.

**Some Children:**

- \* Have personal **Health Care Plans**, these detail the need, how staff will recognise any relevant symptoms, manage medication and provide personal care
- \* Have a nap in the afternoon
- \* Require personal care such as Nappy Changing
- \* Will be supported at snack time

**A Few Children:**

- \* Have Emerging Needs, High Needs or Disability Access Funding which can then go towards providing 1-1 support.
- \* Have access to a Nurture group twice weekly where individual needs will be met using the Boxall Profile.

**6) What specialist services and expertise are available at or accessed by Arlesdene Nursery School and Pre-school ?**

**All Children:**

- \* The school has a received an autism inclusion award by the National Autistic Society
- \* Are taught by staff who hold appropriate Early Years qualifications and have experience working with young children
- \* Work with staff who use simple signing ` Makaton`
- \* Have access to the class teacher who is trained to support children with emotional difficulties
- \* Have access to The SENCo
- \* Are screened for speech and language using Wellcomm

**Some Children:**

- \* Have specialist services involved with them who may come to observe your child in the setting , e.g. speech and language
- \* Have Team Around the Family meetings (TAF) to engage a number of professionals

**A Few Children:**

- \* Have access to the school's private speech and language therapist that is commissioned by the school
- \* Have visits from Herts Integrated Services for Learning (ISL) The team will support practitioners to meet individual needs by observing children within the setting, suggesting ways to support individual needs, planning next steps with practitioners and parents.
- \* Are ` Children Looked After` and have a social worker and an Individual ` Personalised Education Plan` (PEP). The dedicated Teacher for CLA children is Claire Cobain.
- \* Are on the ` Child Protection Register` and have a social worker and a team to support their needs

**7) What training and/or experience do the staff, supporting children with SEND, have?**

**All Children:**

- \* Staff are kept up to date with changes to curriculum and practice through regular Inset days, staff meetings and Professional Development Meetings
- \* Staff attend relevant external training
- \* All staff are Paediatric First Aid trained
- \* Staff have completed Epi Pen training
- \* Have access to the SENCo

**Some Children:**

**We have a number of staff who have experience in the following areas:**

- \* Working with children with Hearing Impairment
- \* Working with children with Behavioural difficulties
- \* Working with children with Speech, Language and Communication needs
- \* Working with children with Specific Learning Difficulties
- \* Working with children on the Autistic Spectrum
- \* Working with children with Physical Difficulties
- \* Benefit from the SENCO 's termly network meetings to keep up to date with current changes as well as relevant training

**A Few Children:**

- \* Will be working with outside professionals who guide and support staff and advising on `What next`
- \* Will be supported in a Nurture group twice weekly, in which their emotional well-being will be monitored and supported

## 8) How will my child be included in activities outside the setting?

**All Children:**

- \* Are welcome to attend visits outside the setting
- \* Can bring their parent/carer on visits
- \* Adult to child ratio's are above the minimum requirement

**A Few Children:**

- \* May require additional planning to enable the visit to take place
- \* Would require special aids or medicines to be administered whilst on the visit

**A Few Children:**

- \* Would require a separate risk assessment prior to the visit

## 9) How will I be involved in discussions about and planning for my child's learning and development?

**All Parents/Carers:**

- \* Are offered a home visit. This first contact is important to share important information relating to your child's needs
- \* Have regular access to your child's learning stories, which contains observations, photographs and next steps of your child's progress and development
- \* Have informal daily contact with your child's key person and their email address so

that they can contact them directly

- \* Are encouraged to add to children's focus weeks and learning stories
- \* Can let staff know about their child's interests and these ideas can be planned for in the setting
- \* Have the opportunity for regular parent meetings with your child's key person to discuss progress and targets
- \* Receive regular newsletters and information about what is happening in class and how this can be extended at home, including the Core Books being used
- \* Are invited to regular Parent Workshops which includes a sessions learning alongside your child
- \* Have the opportunity to use the home learning packs

**Some Parents/carers:**

- \* May have informal discussions with your child's Key person/Support Staff/Class Teacher or SENCo
- \* May have strategies to practice at home from outside agencies e.g. speech and language therapist
- \* Will Regular Early Support Team around the Family meetings (TAF meetings)
- \* May be Signposted to the services of the Family Centres

**A Few Parents/Carers:**

- \* Will be involved in setting and reviewing targets for Learning Plans
- \* Will be involved in regular Early Support Team around the Family meetings (TAF meetings)/ or Child Protection meetings
- \* Will be involved in applications for an Education & Health Care Plan (EHCP)
- \* Will be involved in completing `My Transition Passport`

## 10) How accessible is the building / environment?

**All Children:**

- \* Are taught and cared for in a purpose built building on one level, with wide entrances
- \* Have level access to the garden area
- \* The building is large enough so that children have space to move freely
- \* The use of computers/ interactive whiteboards and iPads enable all children to access technology to support their learning

**Some Children:**

- \* May need access to nappy changing facilities

**A Few Children:**

- \* May need adaptations to existing resources/environment to ensure they can access them

## 11) How will Arlesdene Nursery School & Pre-school prepare and support my child with transitions between home, settings and school?

**All Children:**

- \* Will be included in the transition level of need tool
- \* Will have a Key Person given to them before they join

- \* Will have been offered a home visit prior to starting
- \* Will have had settling in sessions when parent/carers can stay
- \* Can use the book about Nursery/Pre-school to talk about at home

**Some Children:**

- \* Will have a flexible settling in period to meet their needs
- \* Will have additional transition visits to the setting or to their next setting
- \* Will have visits from the SENCo of previous or next setting
- \* May have a completed a `My Transition Passport` from past setting or for next setting

**A Few Children:**

- \* Will have personalised settling in and transition arrangements which involve outside agencies

**In addition we:**

- \* Have introductory parent meetings
- \* Contact previous settings and liaise with staff
- \* Invite all next settings to visit children at Arlesdene Nursery
- \* Pass on assessments and records to next settings

## 12) How are Arlesdene Nursery School & Pre-school resources used to support children's special educational needs?

**All Children:**

- \* Are observed and assessed continuously to ensure they are making good progress linked to the school's 8 Curriculum goals
- \* Have differentiated small group activities and high quality interactions with staff during child initiated learning
- \* Regular staff meetings ensure all staff working with your child know how to meet their needs and support them
- \* The Head and Governors monitor finances carefully
- \* There is a named SEN Governor; Claire Turner, who meets regularly with the SENCo to discuss provision of support and impact of the provision

**Some Children:**

- \* In discussion with you, the class teacher/key person and SENCo will identify what support is needed
- \* Have short term targets on a Learning Plan which identify extra support to enable your child's learning
- \* May need specific additional resources linked to individual interests or development level
- \* The impact of intervention is monitored carefully by the Senior Leadership Team

**A Few Children:**

- \* Have outside professionals involved who may advise on the need for Emerging Needs Funding, Exceptional Needs Funding or an Education Health Care Plan

## 13) Who can I contact for further information about the Early Years Offer in Arlesdene Nursery School & Pre-school?

- \* If you wish to discuss your child's educational needs or have concerns regarding your child please speak to your child's Key Person or contact the office to speak to:
  - \* Mrs. Claire Cobain - Headteacher/SENCo
  - \* Mrs. Lynda Lodge - Lead Nursery Teacher
  - \* Craig Nottingham - Pre-school Leader
- \* **The Parent Partnership** is a free, independent & confidential service that can offer support & advice to parents. More information on [www.hertsdirect.org/partnership](http://www.hertsdirect.org/partnership)
  - \* **Contact Helpline** 01992 555847
- \* **HAND** (Hertfordshire Additional Needs Database) offers information for families with a child with additional needs. Offers concessions to leisure facilities
  - \* Free to join & confidential
- \* <https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/microsites/local-offer/courses-and-activities-in-hertfordshire/hertfordshire-additional-needs-database.aspx>
- \* [hand@hertfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:hand@hertfordshire.gov.uk)

**14) How can I find information about the local authority's Local Offer of services and provision for children with special educational needs and disability?**

For further information, go to <https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/microsites/local-offer/the-hertfordshire-local-offer.aspx>

Last reviewed July 2023