
Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Policy

Reviewed: 4 August 2026 · Next review due: 4 August 2027

At Circadian Nest Nursery we believe that every child has the right to a high-quality early years experience that supports their individual learning and development. We identify and support children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) in line with the Children and Families Act 2014, the SEND Code of Practice 2015 (0–25), the Equality Act 2010 and the EYFS.

Our SENDCo

The designated Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Co-ordinator (SENDCo) is Samina Farooq. She has received SENDCo training and is responsible for coordinating SEND provision across the nursery, liaising with parents and external agencies, and ensuring that staff are equipped to support every child.

Identification and early support

We use ongoing observation, regular key-person conversations and the EYFS progress check at age two to identify children who may need additional support. Where a concern is raised, the SENDCo will meet with the parents to discuss observations and agree next steps.

We follow the graduated approach of assess, plan, do, review. Targeted support is documented in an individual SEND Support Plan that is reviewed with parents at least termly.

Working with parents

Parents are full partners in all decisions about their child's support. We agree targets and strategies together, share progress honestly, and respect the family's knowledge of

their child. Parents are welcome to contribute observations, attend review meetings, and request a meeting with the SENDCo at any time.

Working with other agencies

Where a child's needs exceed what can be met by the nursery's ordinary provision, the SENDCo will seek advice and support from relevant professionals, which may include: the Oxfordshire Early Years Specialist Teaching and Support Service, health visitors, speech and language therapists, paediatricians, physiotherapists, and the local authority's SEND team. Referrals are made with parental consent.

Education, Health and Care (EHC) plans

Where a child may require provision beyond what the nursery and community services can ordinarily offer, we will support parents in requesting an Education, Health and Care (EHC) needs assessment from Oxfordshire County Council. We contribute to assessments and implement any EHC plan in full.

Inclusive environment

Our provision is physically and socially inclusive. Resources, displays and activities reflect a range of abilities; reasonable adjustments are made to the environment, routine and curriculum to enable every child to take part. Staff are trained in inclusive practice and in specific approaches such as Makaton and visual support where appropriate.

Transition and onward support

The SENDCo liaises with receiving schools or settings and shares records (with parental consent) to support a smooth transition. We attend transition meetings and invite new staff to visit the child at the nursery.

Related policies

- Inclusion and Equality Policy

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- Settling In Policy
 - Transitions Policy
 - Safeguarding Children and Child Protection Policy
 - Parents as Partners Policy

Adopted (initial)	Reviewed	Next review	Signed on behalf of the nursery
1 February 2026	4 August 2026	4 August 2027	Suhail Farooq, Director