

Local Offer

The purpose of the local offer is to improve choice for families by providing information about services available for young children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). Over the last 10 years we have had a range of children access our setting with a variety of needs; medical, physical as well as developmental.

1: How will Fairways identify if my child requires extra help and how we support children with SEND and what should I do as a parent/carer do if I think my child has special educational needs?

Each child will have a key worker who helps them settle into the nursery and we regularly observe, assess and monitor individual needs, progress and development, building up positive relationships, understanding their needs and interests. We will continuously advise and inform you of your child's progress.

There will be times when a child is recognised as having a need after starting pre-school and as a setting we will firstly discuss our concerns with the parents. After talking to you our and agreeing additional support is needed our SENCo (Becky Davies) will put in place an ISP (Individual Special Needs Plan). If after a time our concerns still exist we shall seek advice from our local SENCo office and other professionals (with your permission), who will visit the setting to discuss options and strategies on how to support the child and their development, which in turn we will discuss with you and keep you informed of all developments and progress.

When your child starts at Fairways we will ask you complete an "All about me form", which outlines your child's developments and requirements and basic knowledge about their home life, for example siblings, pets etc. We will use this information to help settle your child as well as help with planning activities to maintain their interest.

Each child has a learning journal, which is regularly updated with your child's work, development and achievements, which you can request to see and discuss with your key worker at any time. We also hold a

“Coffee morning” twice a year for you to see your child’s learning journal and discuss their development and any concerns.

2: How will Fairways support my child?

Our SENCo will support you and your child along the whole journey through their time at nursery along you’re your child’s key worker and we will invite you to regular meetings and encourage you to let us know how you feel your child is developing and what next steps you would like to aim for We also have regular contact with our area SENCo and we will pass on any information advice that we have been given. We use various forms of communication to help your child understand and communicate, these include the use of “Makaton”, now and next cards, use of PECS (Picture exchange system). We also have a lot of visuals around the setting for your child to access.

3: How will Fairways help create learning and development opportunities for my child?

Fairways sees each child as an individual and we will firstly talk to you as their parent/carer to get to know and understand your child’s interests and level of understanding, we will then use this information and our own observations to adapt any activity to suit each child. We use various strategies from small groups, 1:1 as well as lots of visuals.

4: Partnership with parents

You key worker will speak to you each session to inform you of the day’s developments and you will also be able to have regular meetings with our SENCo. We record your child’s progress in their “learning Journal’ through written comments, records of their work and lots of photographs. We encourage you to tell us about things that events or outings you have done at home so we can possible implement that into our planning.

5: How does Fairways support the wellbeing of children with SEND?

We use strategies within the setting such as “nursery give me 5” to gain their attention. We use many forms of communication such as sand timers and now and next to prepare the children for what they need to wait for or do next etc.

We implement care plans and follow an Individual support plan for each child with SEND and liaise with all therapists as well as obtaining specialist equipment to aid their time at nursery.

6: What training do Fairways staff have in supporting children with SEND?

All staff are First Aid trained and this is done on a rolling basis so all staff are trained at all times. All staff have accessed Safeguarding training with one staff member (Kerry Willson) also having accessed the Level 3 Safeguarding and so therefore is our Safeguarding officer.

We have at present 3 members of staff who have completed the “Code of Practice” with another going on a training course very soon. All the staff have received training in supporting children with Autism and also we had 2 members of staff attend an Autism conference which gave us a greater insight and understanding about the workings of adults and children with Autism and their day to day issues they have to overcome. We also have received training in various other areas including, Behaviour Management, Makaton, English as an additional language, health and safety, Safeguarding (as stated above).

7: What specialist services are accessed by Fairways?

With your consent we are able to contact and access services from outside professionals such as , Speech and Language, family support workers, Area SENCo, Pre School specialist teachers, family workers and many others. You will always be informed of the outcomes of any meetings information we may have received from them as well as encouraging you to attend some of the meetings

8: How will my child be included in outings?

We would discuss with you where we will be going and when and if you felt comfortable with your child attending these outings we would then draw up a risk assessment with input from you. We would ensure that your child receives 1:1 support from a staff member at all times during the outing.

9: How accessible is Fairways?

Fairways is mainly lower ground, with a small reading loft for quiet and 1:1 work that is accessed by a set of stairs. There is a lockable gate at the bottom of these stairs for when there is not a staff member using it, so children are unable to access the loft area themselves at any other times for safety reasons.

We have accessible toilets and our garden is all one level with Astro turf, so can be used no matter what the weather.

When going out on 'walks' around the village all staff members go along and we are able to walk around without having to cross any roads.

10: How do Fairways support my child when joining the setting and either transferring to another setting or starting school?

We will invite your child to come along to 'settling in sessions' and this can be as many or as few as you wish and are comfortable with. You have the opportunity to stay with your child or go and leave them for a period of time it is entirely up to you. Upon your child's first settling session you will meet their key worker and our SENCo.

When your child either moves to another setting or onto school we normally start the process in the last term before they leave. Their reception class teacher will be invited to visit our setting to see your child 'in action' with the setting as well as talking to your child's key worker and our SENCo about their needs and development.

If the school that your child is due to attend is the one in the village we will visit the school with your child and their peers who may also be attending, to get them used to their new environment and to help with the transition.

11: How does Fairways organise its resources to meet the requirements and needs of my child with SEND.

We adapt our resources to match each child's individual needs, this could be from using a larger peg board puzzle or a 3 wheeled scooter rather than a 2 wheel. Staff are deployed as needed, for example they could be working on a 1:1 basis with your child, to observing their safety with the garden or main room. We also source specialist equipment where possible as well as accessing the resources available from our local SENCo and SEN library.

12: How do we decide the appropriate support and how much my child will receive?

Our SENCo and other early year's professionals will meet with you and we will use our observations as well as your knowledge and information and if possible the views of your child to decide the appropriate support required.

This will be continued throughout the time your child is at the setting to ensure aid of development and care.

13: How does Fairways involve parents and carers in the setting?

We believe in involvement of the parents or carers from the minute you first attend the setting with your child until the day they move onto school or another setting. We encourage you to share information for example events that may have happened at home, special occasions etc. We invite parents along on nursery trips, Christmas plays.

We have had parents who are in the police force, a vet, paramedic and various other occupations come in and talk about their job and what they do. We also have had parents come in and read stories when they have a different accent to one that the children may hear on a day to day basis, for example our most recent parent was French.

14: Who can I contact for further information?

If you would like to visit us to discuss your child's needs before either making a decision for them to start with us, please feel free to contact us either by phone, email or in person to arrange an appointment. Our SENCo Becky Davies will be happy to answer any questions or concerns that you may have.

Our contact details are as follows:

01376 339477

fairwayscc2@aol.com

Fairways Childcare

Old School Room

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