



Special needs policy

As an Ofsted registered Childminder, I aim to provide an inclusive environment for ALL children and their families. I am aware that some children may have special needs and that I need to be proactive in ensuring that appropriate action is taken when a child is identified as having special needs or starts in my care. I will promote the welfare and development of the child in partnership with parents and other relevant agencies.

If I think a child in my care has a special need I will:

- Keep observational notes and share these with the child's parents.
- I will discuss what support is available and keep all matters confidential.
- I would not deny a place to a child with special needs but would need to feel confident that I could give them my best possible care. This would involve much discussion with parents/carers.

If I am caring for a child with special needs I will include them by:

- Valuing and acknowledging their individuality and help them to feel good about themselves.
- Seek information from parents about the child's routines, likes and dislikes.
- I will adapt activities to enable children with special needs to take part.
- I will arrange access to specialist equipment if needed.
- Consider any risk factors.
- Encourage children's confidence and independence

I will work in partnership with parents and discuss:

- Agencies that are also involved in the child's support and care
- Equipment that the child may need
- Advice or support that will help me to provide the best care possible for their child.

I will seek support from the Network Co-ordinator and the Area Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator. I will continue to develop my knowledge of special educational needs by attending training where possible and by reading literature provided to me by the co-ordinators.

Lucy Madge

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