Special Educational Needs & Disabilities Policy (SEND)

As a registered childminder, I follow the requirements of the EYFS and Childcare Register as set by Ofsted. I must also comply with the Equality Act 2010, the Child and Family Act 2014 and the SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities) Code of Practice 2014.

I aim to provide an inclusive environment for all children and their families and am aware that some children may have special needs. I must ensure that appropriate action is taken when a child is identified as having special needs when they start in my care. I must promote the welfare and development of the child in partnership with parents and other relevant agencies. I will do this by following the steps as laid out in the Department for Education SEND Code of Practice to ensure every child receives the best possible care and development support.

I will ensure all children are learning and progressing well by:

- Providing a wide range of resources and activities, both indoors and outdoors, that will stimulate interest and support learning in all areas of development.
- Regularly observing children during free play and planned activities. I will make notes of their progress, and use this information to plan further activities that will further support their learning.
- Using progress trackers to check and highlight whether a child is falling behind in any of the areas of learning and then implement or seek the necessary support.
- Regularly discussing children's learning and development progress with their parents and ways in which they could further support their child's learning and development.
- Making use of relevant facilities, resources and play activities in the local community and further afield.
- Attending appropriate training to ensure I have the skills and knowledge required to support children and their families.

If I feel that a child in my care has a special educational need I will:

- Keep observational notes then share and discuss these notes with the child's parents as soon as it is reasonably possible.
- Seek permission from parents to ask for support from outside agencies (where appropriate) then discuss any available support with parents and always keep matters confidential.
- Contact my area SENCO (Special Educational Needs Coordinator) for further guidance and support.

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

- Valuing and acknowledging their individuality and helping them to feel good about themselves.
 - Talking to them and their parents about their likes, dislikes, interests and routines.
 - Ensuring that activities are adapted to enable the child with special needs to take part. With permission from parents, I will arrange access to specialist equipment where required and consider any potential risks.
 - Always encouraging the child's confidence and independence.

You may wish to refer to the following documents for further information:

- SEND Code of Practice: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/send-code-of-practice-0-to-25
- SEND Guide for parents and carers: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/send-guide-for-parents-and-carers



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