

The Local Offer

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Name of person to contact: Ria Dennis

My child has SEND. I would like to look around. What do I need to do?

Hear at my setting, I welcome all children and their parents / carers to come and take a look around to get to know myself and see my setting layout. If you would like to come and view my setting then please contact me on 07884444646 and a viewing can be arranged, I am open for 48 weeks of the year. If you feel that I would be the right setting for your child, then we can discuss availability and talk about any additional needs that your child may or may not require. I have a range of policies and procedures that I follow and parents are made aware of these as a copy is given on induction.

How will my child and I be made to feel welcome and how will you get ready for my child coming?

To help settle your child into my setting I ask that parents fill out what is called an All About Me form, this gives me an idea of the things your child is into, such as super heroes, dolls or prams etc. This helps me to plan and develop your child through their individual needs. I would also ask that we do some settling in visits, these are normally three one hour sessions which helps them build up to a full session. If you feel that your child would benefit from more sessions then we shall discuss this. I would liaise with all other professionals involved with your child to make sure that your child is receiving the best quality of care at all times to suit their individual needs. An IEP would be put into practice once your child has settled in so that we can work on the child's developmental needs such as walking or talking etc.

How accessible are your premises?

My setting is all open planned so there is plenty of access for a wheel chair, I mainly use the downstairs of my home for child minding which is a large open space where I can always see what is happening while preparing meals etc. A ramp could be added if needed at both the front and the back of the house. Out the back is a secure play area where there is plenty to do such as swings, slides and mud kitchen etc.

How will you keep my child safe?

All persons over the age of 16 within my household are DBS checked to ensure the safety of your child at all times. My home is fitted with two smoke alarms which are tested weekly to ensure that your child is safe. I hold a current first aid certificate and would be willing to take any other training I may need to meet your child's specific needs. I have many policies in practice such as safeguarding, health and safety, risk assessments which are also keep your child safe within the environment. I have a food policy and also take into account any likes / dislikes your child may have and also keep up to date records of any allergies children in my care may have.

How will you communicate with me what my child has done, enjoyed and learnt?

I use communication books daily for both myself and parents to communicate and the other is a verbal handover which is also done daily as well. If an accident were to occur then I would text parents to inform them before the child is collected. I also use medication and accident forms which must be filled out by myself and parents / carers. Each child has their own learning journey which is filled in accordingly with observations, post it notes and photos. Parents evenings are offered to the parents where we share the child's progress and developments while their child is in my care. I also send home development reports before a parents evening, so that the parents have items to discuss at the evenings. I complete two year checks which can also be shared with your child's health visitor.

How do you work with other professionals?

At present I don't have to work with any other professionals, but if I was to, I would work closely with them and attend any meetings so that we are working together as a team to support the child's individual needs. Over the years I have dealt with professionals such as Menphys, Sure Start, Salt, Portage and Psychologists. If your child was to require any of the above they would be welcomed into my home with the parents / carers permission where I would share your child's progress through their learning journals and next steps.

What training have you/your staff had in SEND?

I am the sole worker at my setting, I have a foundation degree in early years and I have 15 years of Working with children and their

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families. I have worked with children with Special Educational needs such as Down's Syndrome, Autism and have basic Macatin skills to help communicate with children with any addition needs. I used to be the Senco when I worked in a nursery setting, so I have lots of training in this area such as Memphys, SOS and Flow to use EPO pens for children with allergies.

How will you adapt play opportunities for my child?

I believe in child led play where I can support and develop your child's individual needs / interests and I am a strong believer of outdoor play as it an important part of a child's learning and development as children learn by exploring. On registration I will discuss the individual needs of your child to make sure that I have everything in place such as risk assessments and adapting the home where possible to provide a safe and warm environment and a place where they can rest and relax. I provide a wide range of sensory experiences to stimulate and interest your child such as sensory boxes, natural materials and lots of handmade sensory experiences such as painting and planting out in the garden. I use the EYFS outcomes to plan for each child's individual developmental stage rather than the child's age as all children develop at different rates.

How will you get ready for my child going to his/her new school?

At present I have not experienced this yet as all the children in my care only attend my setting and I don't have a second setting and none have not left my setting to go to pre-school or school. I am fully aware that I will need to work closely with the local pre-schools and schools when the time does arise. I would provide the children with photo albums so that we aid familiarity of pre-school / school and have sessions where we talk about what will happen at school which I will do through the use of books and role play. With parent / carers permission I would share your child's learning journal which will help your child to get to know their key person. I would communicate with the child's key person daily at the begging and at the end of each session and encourage your child to become an individual that is independent. I would also get written permission from the child's parents as I am happy for your child's pre-school / school staff and their SEN co-ordinator to visit us to see your child in a familiar setting.

How will you and I know how my child is doing and how will you help me to support my child's learning?

When your child starts I have a settling period of 6 weeks which helps me to build up a base line and plan for the individual child's needs. I will plot this on a tracker which is known as the Early Assessment Review, I also fill in the communication and language tool for all of this information which gives me the base line for your child of what he or she can do and what to plan for next. This will identify any area that may need additional support but it will also show the child's learning development and milestones that the child has achieved. Two times a year I do parents evenings where I share with you your child's development and individual progress summary. I also do what is called the two year check when your child is two years old which can be shared with your child's health visitor. All of the above information is used to help set your child's next steps and is used in my planning and planned activities. I will work closely with you to ensure that there learning and development is relevant to their interests through completing all about me forms, which are sent home at the end of every term.