

Explorers Child Care Group Local offer

We offer a fully inclusive setting at Explorers and welcome all children. We work with all children to ensure they achieve the best possible outcomes. Explorers SENCo team are highly qualified and have many year's experience in working closely with families, the local education authority and other agencies such as speech and language, portage and the child development center to give the best support to children with special needs and disabilities (SEND).

In line with the EYFS 2023 and SEND 2020 code of Practice, Early identification and support is a key quality at Explorers, Children are observed daily and children's 'developmental outcomes' are reviewed regularly and shared with parents termly. Parent partnership is very important at Explorers and if a parent or carer has any concerns about their child, we would hope to share those at the earliest opportunity so that appropriate support could be put in place from the beginning. Any necessary referrals would be made at the earliest opportunity.

Every child is allocated a key person who will be the main contact for parents, and will observe, plan for and assess their key children daily. Activities will be planned and adapted for each individual child's ability and stage of development.

Staff at Explorers are highly experienced at creating Individual Plans (IP's) for children, this includes full consultation with parents every step of the way.

IP's are reviewed and monitored by the nursery manager to ensure that they are working successfully and there is effective provision for every child.

As a fully inclusive nursery, pre school and wrap around care provision, we tailor our planning around each individual child, recognising that they are all different and unique. Staff plan in the moment using children's individual next steps and interests to and plan activities to each child's needs.

Our learning journals are an online system 'FAMILY' and can be accessed securely by parents and carers at any time. Each child has a learning journal that contains photographs and videos of the activities they are joining in with in nursery, alongside observations linked to the Early Years Foundation Stage (2023).

We respect and value contributions from parents and carers and work in true partnership, encouraging parents to be part of the decision-making process of their child. We hold regular parent days/ evenings and an 'open door policy' which means that you can come and talk to the nursery manager, key person or practitioner when ever you wish. We share daily communication through daily diaries on Family and face to face handovers at drop off and collection. We encourage parents to come and share learning experiences within the setting and offer play and stay sessions.

At Explorers we believe in the involvement of your child and taking their views into account. We make every effort to involve children in decision making about their learning and if in place their special educational provision.

High child to adult ratios means that children are well supported and provided with a range of high quality resources and activities. Staff demonstrate a positive attitude towards others and children are encouraged to recognise their own individual qualities and characteristics and those they share with others. Strict policies are in place surrounding medication means that all medication is kept securely locked away and written permission is sought from parents before any medication is given.

Our team of staff are very experienced and a high percentage of staff have a minimum of Level 3 in Early Years Educator qualification or training towards this qualification.

Our SENCo team have a wealth of knowledge and experience in working with children with SEN and have a level SENCO Qualification

We work very closely with Speech and Language Therapy, Occupational therapists, Physiotherapists, Health Visitors and social care.

Close links with all the local school, pre school and other providers supports children's transition. Staff continue to receive continuous professional development and are regularly attending training to maintain and acquire skills for their role. The staff at Explorers are all working towards receiving training in Special Educational Needs and disabilities. Training is accessed through Dorset County Council and other accredited training providers. If training is required to meet the individual needs of any child this will be accessed.

The appropriate support is accessed for individual children with additional needs; this could be a one to one support worker, a nursery practitioner or even a parent volunteer.

Parents are always notified about trips and invited to join in as helpers. We welcome parents into the setting at any stage, for example to tell us about their work, bring in a family pet, or to tell a group of children a story.

Explorers has a ramped access into the building and all doors are wide enough for wheelchair access. There is a toilet which is accessible to all, which includes a wet room and shower.

There is allocated blue badge parking to the front of the building, with direct access.

We have access to specialized equipment and we will make any changes necessary to support children with additional needs.

Explorers works very closely with other schools and settings during times of transitions, such as settling in visits, sharing of learning journeys and home visits. Teachers and practitioners are encouraged to come and visit children at Explorers and the children attend regular visits and sessions in the lead up to their transition. Explorers work closely with children in the lead up to any transitions by discussing with the children and parents what will happen and looking at photos of the staff and setting.

The budget for children with special educational needs or disabilities is allocated on an individual basis according to need, and level of support required.

If your child has a Special Educational Need there is a support system in place to ensure we are meeting the specific needs of your child. Your child will receive support from within and dependent on the level of need, outside of nursery in the form of other professionals or specialists. If we feel that we cannot solely meet the needs of your child within the nursery, by adapting the environment or differentiating our curriculum, then we will seek support and advice from other outside agencies. We are also able to provide support via home visits.

New legislation brought in as of September 2014, The Code of Practice, highlights the importance of the involvement of the child and their parent/ carer. We believe that working together with you as parents/ carers ensures the best possible outcome in life for your child. It is valuable to have you on board with us and have a positive influence in your child's education. We encourage you to have input in decision making concerning your child Special Educational Need and you will have access to information, advice and support. In all rooms at Explorers we have a suggestion box or if you would prefer you are able to speak to your child's key worker or any member of staff to express your opinion or concern.