

# Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

This policy has been created with regard to:

- The SEND Code of Practice 2015
- Children and Families Act 2014 (Part 3)
- Equality Act 2010
- Working Together to Safeguard Children (2018)
- Statutory Framework for the EYFS (2021)

## **Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) code of practice.**

The Organisation has regard to the statutory guidance set out in the Special Educational Needs and Disability code of practice (DfE 2015) to identify, assess, and make provision for children's special educational needs.

At **Ashley's House** we use the SEND Code of Practice (2015) definition of Special Educational Needs and Disability:

*A child or young person has SEN if they have a learning difficulty or disability which calls for special educational provision to be made for him or her.*

*A child of compulsory school age or a young person has a learning difficulty or disability if he or she:*

- *has a significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of others of the same age, or*
- *has a disability which prevents or hinders him or her from making use of facilities of a kind generally provided for others of the same age in mainstream schools or mainstream post-16 institutions.*

## **Statement of intent**

We are committed to the inclusion of all children while they are at Ashley's House. We ensure all children are cared for and supported to develop to their full potential alongside their peers through positive experiences. We enable them to share opportunities and experiences and develop and learn from each other. We provide a positive and welcoming environment for the short time the child is with us, where children are supported according to their individual needs, and we work hard to ensure no child is discriminated against or put at a disadvantage because of their needs. Each child's needs are unique, and we do not attempt to categorise children.

### **Working in Partnership with Parents / Carers.**

We require parents / carers to provide the relevant information to ensure the Ashley's House team are fully informed of their child's needs, so we can best support them during their time at Fun Fest during the school holidays.

We are committed to working in partnership with parents to help the children settle and feel comfortable in our environment.

We are committed to working with any child where Ashley's House is an appropriate setting. Parents and carers should be aware that Fun Fest is not a specialist S.E.N setting and we cannot always accommodate children with complex needs or disabilities.

We will always make every effort to accommodate children where possible and make reasonable adjustments to enable every child to make full use of the facilities. All children have a right to a broad and well-balanced early learning environment.

Should Ashley's House deem this is not the correct setting to support your child, Ashley's House will work closely with parents and carers and the local authority to sign post an alternative setting.

### **Settling in procedures:**

Parents / carers are required to disclose any relevant information regarding their child's needs and requirements at the time of booking including (but not limited to)

- EHCP (Education and Health care plan)
- Formal diagnosis (ADHD, ASC)
- Attachment issues
- Behaviour
- Anxieties (CAMHS referral)

We offer a phased settling in process and reduced hours and sessions according to the child's needs to ensure they are comfortable and familiar with the Ashley's House environment.

All new children will be given support to settle in when joining Ashley's House according to their individual needs. Parents are required to work closely with Fun Fest to achieve the best outcomes for the child.

We will:

- Recognise each child's individual needs and ensure all staff are aware of, and have regard for, the Special Educational Needs Code of Practice (2015)
- Ensure that all children are treated as individuals/equals and are supported to take part in every aspect of the Organisation's routine according to their individual needs and abilities.
- Support the specific needs of children with special educational needs and/or disabilities and meet those needs through a range of strategies.
- Fun Fest Head Office provide a S.E.N. coordinator for remote support and advice. We cannot always provide a specially trained SEN practitioner at Ashley's House.
- Encourage children to value and respect others.
- Monitor and review our practice and provision and, if necessary, make adjustments, and seek specialist equipment and services where required
- Challenge inappropriate attitudes and practices
- Promote positive images and role models during play experiences of those with additional needs wherever possible.
- Celebrate diversity in all aspects of play and learning.
- Work in partnership with parents and other agencies to meet individual children's needs, including the education, health and care authorities, and seek advice, support and training where required.
- Liaise with parents on the needs and benefits of introducing reduced hours or adaptations for their child.

The role of the Ashley's House SENCO remote support includes;

- Ensuring all Ashley's House partners understand their responsibilities to children with SEND and the setting's approach to supporting children with SEND.
- Advising and supporting colleagues
- Advising Franchise partners to work closely with parents / carers throughout and that their insights inform action taken by the setting.
- Advising Franchise partners to work with the main education provider if appropriate.
- Provide a **Complaints Procedure** and make available to all parents in a format that meets their needs.
- Monitor and review our policy and procedures annually.

### **Effective assessment of the need for early help**

We are aware of the process for early help and follow the following procedure:

Ashley's House will provide feedback regarding the child at our settings and support parents and the main education provider when seeking an Early Help Assessment.

### **Plan**

Where a child has a formal report from the main education provider, Ashley's House will follow the appropriate recommendations where possible while they are temporarily at our club.

### **Do**

Ashley's House will appoint a key person who will be responsible for working with the child daily. They will work closely with parents / carers and other practitioners to support the child's needs during their time at Ashley's House.

### **Review**

The effectiveness of the support and its impact on the child will be reviewed with parents / carers at the end of each day. The impact and quality of the support will be evaluated by the key person and the Franchise Partner in full consultation with the child's parents and considering the child's views. Information will be shared with parents about the impact of the support provided.

### **Education and Health Care Plan (EHC)**

Some children and young people may require an EHC needs assessment in order to decide whether it is necessary to develop an EHC plan. The purpose of an EHC plan is to adjust and offer support to meet the special educational needs of the child, to secure the best possible outcomes for them across education, health and social care.

The local authority will conduct the EHC needs assessment and consider a wide range of evidence, including:

- evidence of the child's developmental milestones and rate of progress
- information about the nature, extent and context of the child's SEND
- evidence of the action already being taken by us as the main education provider to meet the child's SEND
- evidence that, where progress has been made, it has only been as the result of much additional intervention and support over and above that which is usually provided.
- evidence of the child's physical, emotional, and social development and health needs, drawing on relevant evidence from clinicians and other health professionals and what has been done to meet these by other agencies.

<b>This policy was adopted on</b>	<b>Signed on behalf of the Organisation</b>	<b>Date for review</b>
<i>16/10/2024</i>	<i>Dipaley Patel</i>	<i>April 2025</i>





ASHLEY'S HOUSE