



BARNFIELDS EXTRA

BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

Special Needs Policy

Barnfields Extra believes that every child should have the best possible learning opportunities and we therefore promote inclusive practice. We recognise that some children may have particular needs or disabilities and we take specific action to support and encourage these children within a caring environment.

We enable all children to participate fully in learning activities and experiences by providing a curriculum that responds to the individual development of each child.

We work closely with parents and Barnfields Primary School to monitor the child's progress carefully, and provide effective, additional support to meet the child's needs.

Implementation of the policy in Barnfields Extra

It is the responsibility of the Board of Barnfields Extra to:

- Produce a Special Needs Policy for Barnfields Extra and make it available to all parents. This provides information on how children with special needs and disabilities are supported within the club.
- Ensure that all staff, including students and volunteers, are aware of the details of the policy.
- Identify the necessary provision and staff arrangements to meet the special needs of the children.
- Ensure that no child with special needs is refused a place at Barnfields Extra – if availability.
- Set high, but achievable, targets for children with special needs with staff, parents and children.
- Ensure that staff have opportunities to undertake specialist training related to special needs, to improve and update their knowledge and understanding.

Inclusion

- We ensure that children with special needs are fully integrated into the routines of the club.

- In order to make appropriate and effective provision or adaptations, we collect information from parents /carers through our registration forms to find out the children's:
 - visual/hearing needs
 - physical needs
 - emotional needs
 - learning needs
 - self-help needs
 - communication needs.
- We ensure that children with special needs and disabilities are involved in play activities alongside the other children wherever possible.
- We encourage and support children with special needs and disabilities to play confidently with other children and make a positive contribution.
- We develop activities and experiences to raise the other children's awareness of positive images of disability and difference.
- We make flexible arrangements for additional adult support to enhance social interaction, avoiding segregating children from playing with their peers.
- We plan open-ended learning activities and experiences to help all the children to participate and learn, although we may need to differentiate for some learning activities and experiences and provide alternative formats or additional equipment and resources for particular children.
- We use a range of strategies to engage the children in play, and provide learning activities to suit individual children's most effective style of learning.

Physical environment

- We make reasonable adaptations and arrangements so that children with special needs and disabilities can join in all play areas of Barnfields Extra, both indoors and outdoors.
- We make every effort to organise appropriate space for the children's supported and independent movement.
- We ensure that children with special needs have easy access to toilet and eating facilities.
- We arrange respectful privacy for children with special needs at times of specific medical care or welfare.

Partnership with parents

- We encourage parents to work closely with staff to support their children's individual needs.

- We make time to focus on discussion of the children's strengths, as well as their needs.
- We check that parents understand the graduated procedures of intervention.
- We respect the different perspectives and needs of parents.
- We consult with parents about information that should be shared with others.