



Bristol Children's Playhouse

Growing Together

SEND Offer

What should you do if you think your child has special educational needs?

If you think your child has special educational needs prior to attending the setting, you can phone to talk our SENCO, Sam Hawkesford. We are able to discuss any special requirements your child may need in order to start, and identify any relevant training that staff need to attend in order to fully support your child.

If your child has already started at the setting, there are plenty of opportunities to raise concerns regarding your child's development:

- Pick up and drop off times
- Parent review meetings (termly)
- Or you can arrange to speak to your child's key worker, room manager or SENCO at any time.

How does Bristol Children's Playhouse identify children with special educational needs?

Children can be identified as having special educational needs in a variety of ways:

- Concerns raised by a parent
- Keyworkers identifying that a child is performing below age expected development brackets
- Shared information from other agencies e.g. speech and language therapy
- Health diagnosis from a paediatrician

Using 'A Graduated Approach' we will look at the expected outcomes for a child of their age, identify any gaps and then provide children opportunities to build on these. If a child is still not able to meet the milestones, they may be identified as having special educational needs.

What support will there be for your child?

Our nursery provides inclusive play and learning opportunities for all children. Staff and children are supported so that we can welcome diversity. Disabled children/children with Special Educational Needs have access to broad and balanced opportunities within the Early Years Foundation Stage. They are included in all of the activities of our setting by providing differentiated tasks and experiences. We ensure that the Equality Act 2010, Children and families Act 2014 and in particular the new SEND code of practice are implemented in our setting.

We will provide an individualised approach and/or additional support if your child is not making developmental progress alongside their peers. We may also include interventions through small group work or 1-1 working that may involve some of the following strategies:

- Adjustment of the environment, equipment and materials as required
- Use of visual strategies such as Visual Timetables, Now/Next boards, Picture Exchange Communication System (PECS), Makaton, Sand timers
- Preparations for changes in routines
- Simple language
- Implementation of therapy advice e.g. speech and language therapy, occupational therapy, educational psychologist
- Identification and support of a child's preferred learning style
- Small achievable targets which are reviewed regularly through an Individual Education Plan (IEP)



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- Opportunities for repetition and reinforcement of developing skills
- Support with behaviour and problem solving
- BUDs Top up funding for 1:1 support worker

What support is available to parents of a child with SEND?

Parents are involved in all aspects of their children's learning throughout their time at Bristol Children's Playhouse. We invite you to attend parent review meetings about your child termly, and we ask that you attend any IEP review meetings as well as meet with outside agencies. Our SENCO will regularly contact you to discuss any strategies and offer advice around how to support your child at home, and you are welcomed to speak to any member of staff if you have any questions. We will be able to signpost you towards any charities or support groups which we think would be appropriate. We may also suggest getting in touch with a Family Support Worker.

At any of the review meetings you have the opportunity to submit or request an Education, Health and Care Plan assessment (EHCP) be carried out. An EHCP is a way of providing support that puts children, young people and families at the centre of the assessment and planning process, to make sure that all views are heard and understood. This process focusses on what you and your child want to achieve now and in the future. It will include long and short term goals for you child, set out the support they need and how they will receive this support. If you wish your child to attend a specialist provision school, you will need to request for an EHCP at least 20 weeks prior.

You can find more information around support for families on the Bristol Local Offer website.

How will we support your child when leaving Bristol Children's Playhouse?

Our aim when any child is transitioning to another setting is to make it as smooth and stress-free as possible. When your child is moving to a new setting we will:

- Contact the new setting and arrange a transition meeting
- A transition plan will be drawn up that will include visits, photos and information for the family
- Any special arrangements and support will be put in place for you and your child
- We will make sure that all records about your child are passed on as soon as possible to the receiving school