



# S.E.N.D. Local Offer

S.E.N.D. (Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities) Local Offer

## **How does The Beachside Montessori Nursery know if children need extra help and what should I do if I think my child may have special educational needs or disabilities?**

The Beachside Montessori Nursery has a maximum of 24 spaces per session. Both Managers have completed SENCO training and are experienced and dedicated to effectively observe and assess every child on a daily basis. We use an electronic system called Tapestry which is accessible to parents. These observations are assessed, monitored and applied to our planning. If staff have any concerns about a child these are flagged up and discussed with the SENCO and the child's parents/carers. We work closely as a team around the child through active partnerships with parents, the child and outside agencies. Each child is allocated a Key Worker soon after joining us, whose job it is to have a specific and detailed overview of that particular child's general well-being, progress and development. It is the Key Worker's responsibility to liaise with the manager and child's parents/carers about their development and any concerns that may arise. We hold regular staff meetings and opportunities to discuss key children with Key Workers to ensure we share information about any particular child easily and to consistently implement our planning for each child. Our registration forms have a section where parents can inform us of any additional needs that their child might have.

## **How will the staff at The Beachside Montessori Nursery support my child?**

We provide a settling in session to promote a positive transition into our preschool. The time it takes for the child to settle may vary so we work with the parents and the child to provide them with enough sessions to feel comfortable and settled before starting. We ensure our planning is based on each child and centred around the child's own abilities, needs and interests. This is also done through our Home Interest sheets which we ask parents to fill out. Where additional needs have been identified our Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCO), together with that child's Parents, Key Worker and other members of staff will draw up a personalised plan to support the child and to help ensure their continuing happiness and well-being at our nursery. With the parents' permission we will look to draw upon the experience and expertise of professionals and outside agencies to assist with our planning and to offer support where appropriate.

## **How will the curriculum be matched to my child's needs?**

The Beachside Montessori Nursery follows the Montessori curriculum along with the EYFS. The Montessori philosophy has been tailored over the past hundred

years to provide a wealth of opportunities for exploration, discovery and learning for every child. Each child is observed and assessed continuously and this information forms the basis of their individual plan. We are guided in all that we do by each individual child's unique abilities, their specific interests and their particular style of learning. We are confident that our Montessori curriculum matches the requirements for the Government's Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) documents, and all of our records and assessments pertaining to a child's progress and development at our setting are kept in line with this document.

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

We encourage parents to log-in to our online system to access their child's learning journal. Parents are given the option to leave feedback, discuss any concerns or write about home interests on our monthly newsletter. Parent's Evenings will be held to discuss and assess their child's learning and development.

Inherent within our Montessori curriculum and embedded within EYFS are specific outcomes for determining how well a child is doing. There are particular areas of their growth, learning and development which form the basis of our learning journals and individual learning plans that enable us to assess each child. We strongly believe that parents need to be involved in the process of reviewing their child's progress and for an Individual Education Plan (IEP) to determine specific learning and developmental goals. By involving the parents they feel empowered to take an active role in supporting their child's learning. The Beachside Montessori Nursery is very willing to share our method and approach with parents through 'training' evenings, family days or by a lending library.

**What support will there be for my child's overall well-being?**

The well-being of the child is paramount. We have developed a wide range of policies and procedures to do our utmost to ensure the safety, happiness and well-being of everyone involved with our setting. All the staff at The Beachside Montessori Nursery are fully experienced with the Early Year's Foundation requirements and work strictly alongside our policies and procedures for safeguarding. We conduct daily safety checks, regularly review our practices and seek feedback from both children and parents as to how we are doing. Our trained staff have Paediatric First Aid Training which is updated when needed and take part in regular training to ensure that they can meet the needs of all the children in our care.

We record injuries/incidents that occur both inside and outside the setting which are carefully monitored and dealt with accordingly. The Montessori environment is known for its calm and considerate manner where children and adults are given the time to go about their daily business with confidence and

independence, whilst being supported. Our ethos is to promote respect and mutual understanding by providing activities to enhance their holistic experience and positive learning. Any behavioural issues that will inevitably arise will be dealt with in a positive and proactive manner to facilitate the best outcome for all involved.

### **What specialist services and expertise are available at The Beachside Montessori Nursery?**

We are dedicated to updating our staff's training and the SENCO/Inclusive Coordinator (INCO) attends termly Local Networking meetings to obtain up to date information. Although we have experienced staff who have worked with and alongside children with additional needs, there are no specialist staff at our setting. The Beachside Montessori Nursery are committed to ensuring equal opportunities of access to our setting and we will in devour to seek specialist support, outside agencies and training which may be necessary or benefit the nursery.

### **What training are the staff, supporting children with SEND, had or are having?**

Our SENCO/INCO work as a team with the rest of the staff and managers. They attend courses and networking meetings regularly. When necessary and appropriate they will complete other relevant training that will assist with helping individual needs. The information from these training courses and meetings are relayed to staff to promote a team working around the child.

### **How will my child be included in activities outside The Beachside Montessori Nursery, including trips?**

A full risk assessment is carried out and completed before we embark on any outings. This includes staff, the area, child's needs and weather conditions. All efforts are made to ensure that every child in our setting has the opportunity to take full advantage of any excursion. Parents will be notified and asked to sign a permission slip to enable their child to be included. Staff ratios are reduced to ensure each child is adequately supervised. Additional staff/ parent volunteers may be sought to offer their assistance on a proposed outing where this is deemed beneficial. We always carry a first aid kit and relevant supplies that are required for the children's needs.

### **How accessible is The Beachside Montessori Nursery's environment? (indoors and outdoors)**

The nursery is a ground-floor setting however in order to access the front doors there are three steps. The setting has a ramp, which can used to allow easy wheelchair access to the entrance of the nursery. The garden has a wide path and paving stones and easily accessible. We feel confident that both the

classroom and outside area can be fully accessed by anyone. There is a disabled toilet with nappy changing facilities and a low sink for children to wash their hands. We provide a step for the younger children to use in order to get onto the toilet. Where necessary our classroom layout can be adapted to suit the needs of individual children.

**How will The Beachside Montessori Nursery prepare and support my child to join the setting / transfer to a new setting/school?**

Prior to any child starting at The Beachside Montessori Nursery their parents will be given a registration form, which requests information about the child's health, development and specific needs and/or requirements. We offer 3 settling in sessions and aim to provide the child with an opportunity to get to know our setting and the staff before officially starting. During the settling in sessions we ask parents/carers to fill out a celebrating me form, which goes into more detail about the child's likes/dislikes and ways to comfort them. We provide parents/carers with the opportunity to discuss any requirements outlined in the registration documents and to properly meet our staff.

When the child is due to move on (either to another nursery or to school) we aim to work closely with the next setting to ensure that any and all information relevant to the child's happiness, well-being and development is shared. Our online learning journals are either printed and given to the family or to the next provider. The transition to Primary School is initiated within the last preschool term through topics and activities, photo booklets of relevant schools, visits to the schools and their teachers attending our preschool. School transfer documents will be completed sent to the child's school/teacher.

**How are The Beachside Montessori Nursery resources allocated and matched to the child's educational needs?**

We aim to provide a well-balanced curriculum that is accessible to all children, guided by their own interests and abilities. Our staff are always available to support and encourage participation during activities. If additional resources are required or professional recommendations are made then we will do our utmost to purchase those items or seek alternative support.

**How is the decision made about what type and how much support my child will receive?**

Where a child is deemed to require additional support our SENCO / INCO will liaise with the Key Worker, parents and relevant outside agencies who will all work together to support and plan an individual plan for the child's unique individual needs. Through observations and support from outside agencies we can all access the child's learning and development and adjust the individual plan to suit.

**How are parents involved at The Beachside Montessori Nursery? How can I be involved?**

We have an open door policy and invite all parents/carers in. Parents/carers are given the opportunity to volunteer their time on a regular basis or to assist when we go on outings. In our newsletters parents/carers are asked if they would like to share particular skills or interests with the children. Our feedback forms allow parents to express any feelings, wishes or issues they may have.

**Who can I contact for further information?**

- For further information about children's services in general please contact the Family Information Service on 01243 777 807.
- For further information about us and our setting please contact Tarra or Carla

tel : 07401179020

email: [beachsidemontessorinursery@gmail.com](mailto:beachsidemontessorinursery@gmail.com)