

Special Educational Needs & Disabilities (SEND)

- ✗ We aim to support all children to access activities
- ✗ Individual needs will be discussed with parents
- ✗ Reasonable adjustments will be made where possible
- ✗ Clear, age-appropriate boundaries
- ✗ Gentle guidance and redirection

We do **not** use:

- Physical punishment
- Humiliation or shaming

Boots and Buds – SEND Policy

Aim

Boots and Buds is committed to providing an inclusive environment where all children, including those with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), are supported to access outdoor learning and thrive.

Our Approach

We believe:

- Every child is unique
- Outdoor learning benefits all children, particularly those with additional needs
- Children should be supported to participate at their own pace

We promote:

- Inclusion
- Positive relationships
- Individualised support

Identifying SEND

We work with parents to identify children's needs through:

- Registration forms
- Parent discussions
- Ongoing observation

We recognise indicators such as:

- Communication difficulties
- Social or emotional challenges
- Physical needs
- Sensory sensitivities

Supporting Children with SEND

We will:

- Adapt activities to meet individual needs
- Use flexible approaches (e.g. quieter spaces, smaller groups)
- Provide additional support where needed
- Allow children time and space to engage

Examples in our setting:

- Offering calm areas for children who feel overwhelmed
- Adapting instructions for different communication styles
- Supporting children with transitions

Working with Parents

We will:

- Work in partnership with parents
- Share observations and progress
- Discuss strategies that work well
- Agree on support approaches together

External Support

Where appropriate, we will:

- Signpost parents to additional support services
- Work alongside professionals (with consent)
- Follow any relevant guidance or plans

Staff Responsibilities

- All staff will be aware of children's individual needs
- The lead practitioner (Partner A) will take responsibility for SEND support
- Staff will maintain a supportive and inclusive environment

Accessibility

We will:

- Assess our environment for accessibility
- Make reasonable adjustments where possible
- Consider safety and inclusion in all planning

Outdoor Environment

We recognise that outdoor learning:

- Supports sensory regulation
- Encourages movement and engagement
- Provides flexible learning opportunities

We adapt outdoor activities to ensure all children can participate safely.

Monitoring & Review

- Children's needs are reviewed regularly
- Strategies are adjusted as needed
- Ongoing communication with parents is maintained

