

JOEY'S CHILDCARE

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Policy

Setting Name: Joey's Childcare

Provider / SENCo: Rachel Joseph

Address: 11 Carrington Road, Richmond, Surrey, TW10

Registration Status: Awaiting Ofsted Registration

Local Authority: Achieving for Children

Date Written: 1st July 2026

Review Date: 1st July 2027

1. Policy Statement

At Joey's Childcare, I am committed to providing an inclusive, welcoming and supportive environment where every child is valued, respected and encouraged to reach their full potential.

I recognise that all children are unique and develop at different rates. Children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) will be supported to access learning opportunities, develop confidence and participate fully in all aspects of childcare life.

I aim to remove barriers to participation wherever possible and work closely with parents and professionals to ensure every child receives the support they need.

This policy is written in accordance with:

- Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Statutory Framework
- SEND Code of Practice (0–25 Years)
- Equality Act 2010
- Children and Families Act 2014

2. Definition of SEND

A child has Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) if they have:

- A significantly greater difficulty in learning than most children of the same age, or
- A disability that prevents or hinders them from accessing educational facilities generally provided for children of the same age

A disability is defined under the Equality Act 2010 as a physical or mental impairment that has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on a person's ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities.

3. Aims

I aim to:

- Identify and support children with SEND as early as possible
- Provide inclusive, high-quality care and education
- Ensure all children are treated with dignity and respect
- Promote equality of opportunity
- Work in partnership with parents and carers
- Work collaboratively with outside professionals
- Enable every child to participate fully in activities and experiences
- Support children to achieve the best possible outcomes

4. Inclusion

At Joey's Childcare I believe that:

- Every child is unique
- All children deserve equal opportunities
- Diversity should be celebrated
- Children should feel valued and included
- Barriers to participation should be reduced wherever possible

No child will be discriminated against because of their special educational needs, disability, race, religion, culture, gender or family background.

Reasonable adjustments will be made to ensure all children can access the environment, activities and learning opportunities available.

5. Role of the SENCo

As the childminder, I act as the Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCo).

My responsibilities include:

- Monitoring children's progress and development
- Identifying children who may require additional support
- Working with parents to identify needs
- Planning and implementing support strategies
- Maintaining accurate records
- Liaising with professionals and external agencies
- Monitoring the effectiveness of support provided
- Ensuring an inclusive environment is maintained
- Accessing training and professional development opportunities

6. Early Identification of SEND

Early identification is essential in supporting children effectively.

Potential concerns may be identified through:

- Daily observations
- Ongoing assessments
- Communication with parents and carers
- Progress checks at age two
- Health visitor information
- Developmental reviews
- Professional advice and recommendations

Where concerns arise, I will discuss these sensitively with parents and agree appropriate next steps.

Early intervention can significantly improve outcomes for children.

7. Graduated Approach – Assess, Plan, Do, Review

Where additional support is required, I will follow the graduated approach outlined in the SEND Code of Practice.

Assess

I will:

- Observe the child
- Review developmental progress
- Discuss concerns with parents
- Consider advice from professionals where appropriate

Plan

Together with parents, I will:

- Identify outcomes and goals
- Agree strategies to support development
- Plan any necessary adjustments

Do

I will:

- Implement agreed support strategies
- Adapt activities and routines
- Provide additional support where appropriate
- Monitor the child's engagement and progress

Review

I will:

- Review progress regularly
- Discuss outcomes with parents
- Adjust support where required

- Seek additional advice if concerns remain

Parents will be involved throughout the entire process.

8. Supporting Children with SEND

I will support children with SEND by:

- Adapting activities to meet individual needs
- Using a child-centred approach
- Providing additional support where appropriate
- Offering differentiated learning opportunities
- Using visual aids, communication tools and specialist resources where needed
- Supporting social and emotional wellbeing
- Encouraging independence and confidence
- Promoting participation in all activities

Support will always be tailored to the individual child.

9. Reasonable Adjustments

In accordance with the Equality Act 2010, reasonable adjustments will be made where necessary to ensure children with SEND can participate fully.

Adjustments may include:

- Adapting activities
- Modifying routines
- Providing specialist resources
- Adjusting the physical environment where possible
- Using alternative communication methods
- Offering additional support during activities

Each child's needs will be considered individually.

10. Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs)

Where a child has an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP), I will:

- Work in partnership with parents and professionals
- Support the outcomes identified within the plan
- Implement recommended strategies where appropriate
- Attend review meetings where required
- Contribute information to support reviews
- Ensure the child receives consistent support

The child's individual needs will remain central to all planning.

11. Listening to Children

Children's views, interests and preferences are important.

Where developmentally appropriate, children will be encouraged to:

- Express their views
- Make choices
- Share interests and preferences
- Participate in decisions affecting them

Their voice will be considered when planning support and activities.

12. Working in Partnership with Parents

Parents know their children best and are essential partners in supporting their development.

I will:

- Share information openly and honestly
- Listen to parents' views and concerns
- Involve parents in decision-making

- Agree support strategies together
- Review progress regularly
- Respect confidentiality and family circumstances

Parents will be involved at every stage of the support process.

13. Working with Other Professionals

Where appropriate, I will work alongside:

- Achieving for Children SEND Services
- Area SENCo
- Health Visitors
- Speech and Language Therapists
- Educational Psychologists
- Occupational Therapists
- Physiotherapists
- Portage Services
- Inclusion Teams
- Other relevant professionals

Parental consent will be obtained before information is shared unless safeguarding concerns require otherwise.

14. Transition Support

Transitions can be particularly important for children with SEND.

To support smooth transitions, I will:

- Share relevant information with parental consent
- Prepare transition records where appropriate
- Work with receiving settings and schools

- Arrange visits where possible
- Share successful strategies and support plans
- Help children become familiar with new environments

Transition arrangements will be planned according to the child's individual needs.

15. Confidentiality and Record Keeping

Information relating to SEND will be:

- Kept confidential
- Stored securely
- Managed in accordance with UK GDPR and the Data Protection Act 2018
- Shared only on a need-to-know basis and with appropriate consent where required

Confidentiality will only be breached where safeguarding concerns require information to be shared.

16. Training and Professional Development

As SENCo, I am committed to maintaining and developing my knowledge of SEND.

I will:

- Access relevant SEND training
- Keep up to date with current legislation and guidance
- Seek advice from professionals when required
- Reflect on and improve practice continuously

This helps ensure children receive the best possible support.

17. Monitoring and Review

This policy will be:

- Reviewed annually

- Updated following legislative or guidance changes
- Reviewed following significant SEND developments
- Shared with parents and relevant professionals where appropriate

The effectiveness of SEND provision will be regularly monitored and reviewed.

Final Statement

At Joey's Childcare, I am committed to ensuring that every child, regardless of their abilities, needs or circumstances, is supported, respected and included.

Through partnership working, early identification, personalised support and inclusive practice, I aim to provide an environment where all children feel valued, develop confidence and are given every opportunity to thrive.

Signed: _____

Date: _____