### Additional Learning Needs Policy

Children who need extra support in school may not need extra support within a play setting. Some children however may require specific treatment, facilities or care while in The Lil Rascals that is above and beyond the usual provision for most children.

The Lil Rascals aims to provide a welcoming and supportive environment for all children, staff and parents. They will all be treated with dignity and respect. The Lil Rascals supports integration and the treatment of all children and adults as individuals, wherever this is possible. Please refer to our equal opportunities policy.

* Playworkers consult with children and parents/carers as appropriate with regard to children’s individual needs and preferences.
* The individual needs and views of children are considered when planning activities and buying toys and other equipment.
* The Lil Rascals aims to provide adaptations to the facilities and environment in order to cater for individual additional needs where this is practicable and reasonable.
* Where appropriate, children’s progress will be monitored and recorded in consultation with parents and carers. Strategies will be discussed with the child and parent/carers and implemented.
* Staff will receive appropriate training as required.
* Full cooperation will be given to outside agencies in order to meet the specific needs of a child.
* If a child requires one to one support at The Lil Rascals, we will make every effort to work with the parents/carers and relevant organisations to access additional funding and extra staff members to provide one to one support.
* The level of individual care is agreed with the parents. The Lil Rascals ensures that the privacy and dignity of a child is respected and maintained when providing any intimate care.
* The Lil Rascals promotes anti-discriminatory practices and encourages a positive atmosphere for all.

The Welsh Government wants to ensure that all children and young people in Wales have the best opportunities to do well in life. Some children and young people find learning more difficult than most others their age, due to an additional learning need. To support the opportunities of all children and young people, Welsh Government introduced the Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act (2018) which establishes the statutory framework for supporting children and young people with additional learning needs (ALN), replacing legislation around special educational needs (‘SEN’). The Act introduced, among other things, a new statutory plan called an ‘individual development plan’.

The Additional Learning Needs Code clarifies how the Act must/should be enacted, outlining responsibilities of schools, colleges, Local Authorities and health services in relation to support for children and young people with additional learning needs.

**The Lil Rascals and The Additional Learning Needs Code for Wales 2021**

* The Lil Rascals is not publicly funded to provide education and consequently has no **legal** responsibility in terms of the Additional Learning Needs Code for Wales 2021
* It is the School/College/Local Authority’s responsibility to ensure that the ALN Act and Code requirements are met, and that individual development plans (IDPs) are put in place where required
* While our club is not legally responsible, we understand that we could be part of the person centred planning thatcould help to create a picture of the child’s needs (e.g. a Keyworker may have a good insight into a child’s needs/what works in terms of support, which could influence the content of the IDP or how it is then implemented)
* The IDP may also influence how our club identifies support needs for engagement in the play opportunities provided for a specific child, or for elements of the childcare offered such as during the walk from the school site. Consequently, a dialogue between the School and The Lil Rascals will be maintained, where relevant, to support the child.

The main language is English. Bilingual signs will be used where appropriate.