

Amanda Byrne

Brief description of the setting

My setting offers places from birth to 14years. I am a lone childminder working from my family home. I offer a home from home childcare service, enabling the children in my care to feel like one of the family, all my family have contact with the children sometime while here.

How we identify if your child may need additional help and/or has special educational needs (SEN)

All the children access a full range of appropriate activities and recourses through which they can develop and learn through play to help reach their full potential. Ongoing assessments support the setting to meet individual needs, a 2 year development check is carried out and shared with parents any concerns identified will be discussed with parents. Next steps are planned around individual children and appropriate plans put in place.

How we involve parents and carers in meeting the needs of their child and in whole setting developments

Ensuring parents are closely involved throughout their Childs time in my setting, their views and input are sort often. Record keeping and following the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) parents are kept up to date on their Childs progress. This is done by providing daily diaries for 3 year olds and younger, then every 6 months parents are sent the learning journals to view at home. Parents can ask to see the journal any time they want.

How we will involve your child in the planning and review of their support

Planning is child led in my setting so that their learning is built around the children's interests with guidance from me. Each child is unique so I allow them to explore their interests within a rich environment. Observations are taken and an assessment is made. Planning will be addressed within the areas that any child is not meeting their best potential.

How we match the curriculum, teaching and learning approaches if your child has SEND

All children in my care are treated as individuals, planning around their interests and needs, all children will be allowed to progress to their best ability with encouragement. All children will be challenged to learn but with individual plans in place to meet the Childs own needs.

How we provide additional support if your child has learning needs

Where a child continues to make less than expected progress, despite evidence-based support and interventions I would involve appropriate specialists, for example, health visitors, speech and language therapists, Portage workers, who may be able to identify effective strategies, equipment, programmes or other

interventions to enable the child to make progress towards the desired learning and development outcomes. The decision to involve specialists should be taken with the child's parents.

How we provide additional support if your child has social and communication needs

Parental involvement is essential, during discussions with parents ideas on how to proceed will be addressed this could involve seeking help from an outside agency. Including the health visitor/Speech & language therapist.

How we provide additional support if your child has physical, sensory and/or medical needs

Other specialists would be involved, to enable me to meet the Child's individual needs. As a professional would need to take extra training to ensure I can carry out any medical procedures if 'I'm not familiar with them.

How we provide help to support your child's emotional health and well being

I am responsible to ensure all children in my care are safe be it emotionally or physically. My setting is risk assessed daily and I have house rules, which I enforce for every one's safety. I am 1st aid trained which is renewed every 3 years. I keep records of all accidents and any medications given. My setting has a safe guarding policy which will be followed. All children are encouraged to carry out hygiene tasks from a very young age and they are encouraged to be kind to each other at all times. Sharing and taking turns with equipment.

How we promote developing independence

From a young age all children are encouraged to help themselves where ever possible. Selecting their own toys and resources, tidying away if they want more equipment out. Choosing their own snacks and even preparing simple foods. Hand washing is taught from young so it comes as second nature. Self care and independent play is all part of growing into confident children.

How we measure and review your child's progress against their targets and longer term outcomes

All children in my care that come under the EYFS have a learning journal where I observe and record their progress; I monitor all 7 areas and provide stimulating resources to encourage them to reach their best potential. Any areas that need help and encouraging in will have planned activities provided, always trying to incorporate the Child's interest so it is enjoyable and stimulating. Progress is recorded with the aim of having the children School Ready so the transitions will be as easy and the children settled as smoothly as possible. I will also look at the Older children in my care providing stimulating activities but also providing quiet areas where they can relax, read or do their homework after a busy day at school.

How we adapt the learning environment and ensure that our school facilities are safe and welcoming to children with SEND

My setting is within my mid terraced house which all the down stairs is used for my childminding business use; I have access from the front of the property and the rear. Both assessable by pushchair or wheelchair. The only down sight is I have no downstairs toilet facilities. I have a large secure garden that is grassed and slabbed for all weather play.

How we include children with SEND in the life of our setting

All children are welcome within my setting if I can offer them a secure and safe environment at the time of enquiry. I have to make sure it is the correct place for them taking into account the children already here and the needs of everyone. I have cared for and still am caring for children with cerebral palsy, sensory needs, speech and language delays, medicine dependent children, children on the autistic spectrum and children with behavioural issues. Equipment and resources show diversity within our environment, books, posters internet access is available under supervision.

How we ensure that all our staff are trained and supported to meet a wide range of children's needs

With me being a lone childcare provider I undertake all the relevant training to ensure I meet the requirements for my registration. 1st Aid, safeguarding, food hygiene. I also attend regular training to keep my professional development fresh. I also attend EARLY YEARS meetings to keep up to date on new information. I'm a member of PACEY, receive email updates from Ofsted, environmental health and many more.

External support and expertise we can call upon to help us to meet children's need

During my years working within the childcare sector I have worked with many agencies, speech & language. Health visitor, physiotherapist, children centre staff, portage, social workers, nutritional nurse and find If I have any concerns I know I can contact the early years department who can guide me to any help I need to protect or help children in my care.

How we prepare children to join our setting

I ask all parents and their children to come for a couple of short visits together, this gives the parents plenty of opportunities to see how my setting works and they can ask as many questions as they need, this also gives me the opportunity to gain information about the child and the family. We then progress to the child visiting alone for a couple of hours a couple of times before they officially start. I find the child settles quicker if they have had the experience of visits. Parents can provide comforters like blankets, special toys if needed.

How we prepare children to move on from our setting

All children who are ready to leave are supported in the transition, if moving onto school/nursery as with the teachers making home visits I am willing for the teachers

to do their visits in my setting. I provide a transition report detailing all the information collected while the child is in my care.

How we deploy our resources to meet the needs of children with SEND