

Happy Days Childcare

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Brief description of the setting

We are a husband and wife team of childminders caring for children from birth to 14 years. Our main aim is to provide a happy, safe and homely environment in which children can flourish and as such have a warm and welcoming home which is incredibly child focused. We visit local playgroups, music groups, play areas and farms so children can play, learn, and develop valuable social skills. There are lots of opportunities for messy play, baking and role play. In good weather we enjoy picnics and when not so good “carpet picnics” are just as much fun! We really are a home from home!

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

We work to the Early Years foundation stage and provide play opportunities that allow children to develop in all areas of learning. We regularly observe and work with parents, by providing written and verbal updates on each individual child’s development. Where children are not reaching expected progress in any area this will be identified and highlighted to parents, where we will discuss any necessary intervention required by outside agencies.

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

On arrival at our setting we will complete an ‘all about me’ form where parents can let us know all about their child, from sleep routines, eating to developmental milestones reached. From this we provide settling sessions where we can get to know the child well in order that together we can plan and develop play opportunities for that child. We get to know what the child likes to do at home from discussions with parents and build that into our planning. We use an online learning journal where parents can see what their child is doing and what we are observing as well as a daily diary to provide information about the activities that have been provided.

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

We involve children in age appropriate activities, which allow them to express their needs and choices. We also regularly talk to the children, where age appropriate, about what they like to do at home.

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

We use the Early Years Foundation Stage and the Characteristics of Effective Learning to plan effective learning opportunities that meet each individual child’s needs and stage of development. We have high expectations for all children

regardless of age or ability and provide an exceptional level of teaching and learning opportunities.

How we provide additional support if your child has learning needs

We work with parents and external agencies to work on play activities that support each child's additional learning needs.

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

We initially speak to parents and involve the Health visitor to observe and discuss the child's social and communication needs. We involve the children in a range of social situations to develop them and where appropriate, discuss communication delays with parents and involve speech and language where necessary. If additional outside agencies were involved we will attend meetings to discuss next steps for the child and provide play opportunities to develop them.

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

We discuss each child's needs with the parents and will adapt our setting where appropriate. We work with physiotherapists and occupational therapists where necessary and have experience in this area, providing opportunities for physical exercises to be done in a fun way with the other children being involved too in order to not draw attention to that child. We listen to parents when discussing sensory and medical needs and again, adapt our setting where appropriate.

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

We provide a fun, loving and caring environment where kisses and cuddles are an integral part of the day. We work with parents to provide a routine that allows the children to feel safe and secure. Healthy eating is an important part of a child's health and well-being and this is promoted with parents and within the setting to ensure that children are eating a well-balanced diet.

How we promote developing independence

Independence is developed from an early age, providing opportunities for children to feed themselves, wash their own hands, put on and take off their own shoes and coat. Children are also given the opportunity to choose their activities.

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

We use an online system which tracks each individual child's progress against their Early learning goals. These goals are reviewed on a half termly basis in order for us to chart each child's progress against their targets. These are discussed with parents and parents have an opportunity to talk about how their child is doing at home. New targets are discussed and agreed with parents.

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

Our learning environment is reviewed on a regular basis and in particular on the arrival of a new child starting whether or not they have a special educational need; all children are catered for on an individual basis.

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

All children are included, regardless of ability. We do this by having an 'all about me' chat with the parents so we know the child inside out before arrival. Each child's individual needs are met and reviewed on an on-going basis as we review their development with parents. Where we feel an individual child's needs are not being met we discuss this with the parents and obtain help from outside agencies to help us to give support to a child's physical or emotional needs.

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

Our setting has a fully trained Special Education Needs Coordinator, who attends updates regularly with Early Years. We also keep up to date with training and Network meetings. Training needs are reviewed on a termly basis.

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

We contact Early Years SEND team, Health visitors, Physiotherapists, Occupational Therapists, Educational Psychologists, Speech and Language and anyone else involved in the support of the child.

How we prepare children to join our setting

We discuss each child's individual needs with the parents prior to joining our setting. With this we also discuss any settling in period that may be needed. We complete an all about me discussion in order that we have a full picture of the child's routine, emotional and physical needs as well as likes and dislikes.

How we prepare children to move on from our setting

We meet with the child's new setting and provide an in depth report about the child's developmental progress, likes, dislikes, learning characteristics and anything else that may help a smooth transition. Where necessary we will have transition meetings that involve the child attending the new setting with us and the parents.

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

We deploy resources as and when we have reviewed the needs of each individual child.

Contact for more information

For up to date contact information, please use the Childcare and School Search on the home page of the Families Information Service website.