



## Lanterns Nursery School Inclusive Practice Leaflet



### Introduction

Lanterns Nursery School is a purpose-built school which opened in 2005. It operates as a Maintained Nursery School with a specialist SEND Hub commissioned for 36 children with significant special educational needs.

Our Staff and Governors are committed to providing a welcoming, supportive, and inclusive environment. We support children in accordance with the SEND Code of Practice 2015 and the Equality Act 2010. Partnership with parents is central to our work; we believe that the child's parent/carer is their key educator.

*Our full SEND Policy, SEND Information Report, Accessibility Statement and further information are available on our website - [www.lanterns.hants.sch.uk](http://www.lanterns.hants.sch.uk)*

### How do we ensure every child flourishes?

By getting to know them deeply. Our staff observe how each child interacts with the world, identifying their natural strengths alongside any areas where they may need adjusted support. We believe in early partnership; if we feel a child's learning journey could be further enhanced through specific strategies or adaptations, we work closely with families to ensure our nursery environment is fully responsive to their needs.



### Our approach to tailored learning and responsive support



All children with identified SEND have an initial review meeting towards the end of their first term. This includes parents, class staff, the SENDCo or Assistant SENDCo and involved professionals.

At this meeting, we identify three specific objectives to be met over the term. These are recorded as the child's Personalised Learning Plan within their online learning journal. These targets are reviewed formally every term.

## Inclusive Provision

Our provision is designed to be a communication supportive environment using:

- **Makaton Signing:** Used throughout the school to support early communication.
- **Visual Support:** Objects, photographs, and symbols to support understanding.
- **Specialist Groups:** Language groups, Clever Bodies (motor skills), and differentiated story groups.
- **Specialist Spaces:** A sensory room with light equipment and a soft play/ball pool for gross motor play.



## Our Classes:

- **Caterpillars:** Our provision for our youngest learners, aged 8 months to 2 years.
- **Bumblebees:** Our class for children aged 2 to 3 years.
- **Butterflies:** Our class for children aged 3 and 4 years.
- **Grasshoppers:** A specialist class within our SEND Hub for children with autism or significant social communication profiles. It offers a higher adult-to-child ratio and a highly structured, low-distraction environment.



## Behaviour and Medical Support

- **PATHS:** We follow the *Promoting Alternative Thinking Strategies* programme to help children manage emotions. For children with specific challenges, we work with parents to create a Behaviour Support Plan.
- **Medical Needs:** Children with medical requirements have an Individual Health Care Plan to ensure staff are trained to administer medication and provide specific care.



## Seeking support from other professionals



We work closely with external agencies who often visit the nursery, including:

- Physiotherapy, Speech and Language Therapy, and Occupational Therapy.
- We also liaise with Consultant Paediatricians, Educational Psychology, Portage, and Specialist Teacher Advisors.

## Who can I talk to?

We encourage open dialogue. Please start by talking to your child's Key Person. If you need further information, you can speak with:

**SENDCo:** Helen Woodhall, **Headteacher:** Lynsay Falkingham, **Chair of Governors:** Briony Alder, **Governor responsible for SEND:** Chloe East

**01962 860393 option 2** or email [send@lanterns.hants.sch.uk](mailto:send@lanterns.hants.sch.uk)