**SUPPORTING CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL EDUCATION NEEDS POLICY.**

Cowling Preschool provides an environment in which all children, including those with special educational needs, are supported to reach their full potential.

**Policy Statement.**

We believe that all children have a right to experience and develop alongside their peers wherever possible. We are committed to working alongside parents and other agencies to provide for al children’s needs and requirements and to enable any child with special needs to fully access the facilities at our preschool and to make the most of their time with us.

**Procedures.**

* We have a designated Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCO) which is Nicola Smith, however we ensure that the provision for children with special educational needs is the responsibility of all our key workers.
* We ensure that our inclusive admissions practice ensures equality of access and opportunity.
* We use the gradual response system for identifying, assessing, and responding to children’s special educational needs.
* We work closely with parents to create and maintain a positive partnership, and parents are informed at all stages of the assessment, planning, provision and review of their child’s education, and we provide parents with information on sources of independent advice and support.
* We liaise with other professionals involved with the child and their families, including transfer arrangements to other settings and school.
* We provide a broad, balanced and differentiated curriculum for all the children with special educational needs, using a system of planning, implementing, monitoring, evaluating and reviewing individual educational plans (IEPs).
* We ensure that children are appropriately involved at all stages, taking into account their levels of ability.
* We have systems in place for supporting children during Early Years Action, Early Years Action Plus, Statutory Assessment and the Statementing process, and for keeping records of the assessment, planning, provision and reviews.
* We provide in-service training for parents, practitioners and volunteers and provide resources (human and financial) to implement our Special Educational Needs Policy.
* We raise awareness of any specialism the preschool has to offer, e.g. Makaton trained staff.
* We ensure the effectiveness of our special educational needs provision by collecting information from a range of sources e.g. Individual Educational Plan reviews, staff and management meetings, parental and external agency’s views, inspection and complaints.
* We monitor and review our policy annually.

**This policy was adopted on .………………………………….......**

**Date to be reviewed ...…………………………………….**

**Signed on behalf of the management committee …………………………………………**

**Name of signatory …………………………………………**

**Role of signatory (e.g. Chair/owner) …………………………………………**