

SEND Policy



Children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

The Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Code of Practice 2014 defines the term SEND in the following way.

“A child or young person has SEN if they have a learning difficulty or disability which calls for special educational provision to be made for him or her. A child or young person has a learning difficulty or disability if he or she:-

Has significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of others of the same age or has a disability which prevents or hinders him or her from making use of the facilities generally provided for others of the same age” (Code of practice 2014, p4).

Our staff always work to ensure activities and programmes are written and undertaken to include all children and we are committed to working with parents to develop the best strategies to help children take part, learn and thrive at our camps, leaving with the same feeling of excitement, self-satisfaction and achievement that we hope all children experience at our camps.

Here at Venture Camps, we operate an inclusive programme that aims to include all children for all activities throughout our camps.

Facilitating the best level of inclusion:

To facilitate the best possible levels of inclusion, parents will need to do the following:

- Share their child’s strategy/individual care plan document/ECHP (usually provided from their primary school) and the relevant information regarding the special educational needs.
- Share with the Venture Camps Lead Staff member at camp; strategies and techniques that we as a team can adopt to best support your child at camp and ensure they have the most enjoyable experience with us. You may wish to do this in writing and a staff member can provide a disclosure of need form for this.
- As stated in the Code of Practice 2014, this additional information enables staff to make the necessary reasonable adjustments for each child with SEND and to provide Social, Emotional, Mental Health (SEMH) support where needed.

We understand the emphasis the SEND Code of practice places on SEMH and understanding behaviour as communication. We train our staff to show understanding surrounding the communication of needs through behaviour and how these may present through various manageable, disruptive and challenging behaviours.

If disruptive behaviours occur the staff will proceed to wave 2 of the graduated approach (see below). If challenging behaviours occur staff will proceed to wave 3 of the graduated approach. Parents and Staff working together to best support the child, allows for better provisions for the needs of the child. No child is discriminated against by the Venture Camps staff or any peers from taking part in an activity, which it is safe and proper for them to undertake.

At all times Staff will endeavour to enhance the learning experience of every child through quality first teaching practice following a graduated approach to supporting children with SEND.

- **Wave 1** - High Level Quality First Teaching
- **Wave 2** - SEMH support with trained staff members following 'Assess, Plan, Do, Review' as suggested by the Code of Practice 2014.
- **Wave 3** - Reports and Part-Exclusions where required in conjunction with Local Authority guidance.

Venture Camps will do their best to allocate their most trained and experienced staff to support children who require SEMH and SEND differentiation of activities. **Please recognise that we are a childcare provider of holiday activities and not a primary school setting. We are unable to offer one to one support for children with SEND and will only work alongside the guidance from parents and primary schools based on the child's ECHP.**

Children are included in activities with other children and it is not always possible that ratios and group sizes can be altered or reduced to meet the needs of a specific child. However Venture Camps will do their best to accommodate when possible.

This designated/key person will be there to support, communicate with parents to let them know how their child is coping throughout the day and also to offer support to the children without distracting the other members of the group.

This designated/key person on site will be able to offer 'check in's' throughout the day and support a child if they are finding things difficult. In many cases the designated key person will be allocated to the group/class of the child that requires support.

Support can be offered in several ways such as using the emotional 5 point scale, calm down strategies and quiet zones.

All children should comply to our code of conduct when it comes to behaviour (please also reference our behaviour management policy). If the behaviour of a child with SEN is deemed inappropriate, the allocated staff member will attempt to repeat steps one and two of our behaviour management steps and offer support strategies outlined above. If in an instance, where the child continues to behaviour inappropriately and is either:

- a risk to themselves or others at camp
- Is disrupting the enjoyment of activities for other children either through bullying or aggressive play and actions,
- Threatening to members of the Venture Camps staff

The allocated person would then make contact with parents and if necessary steps may be taken that result in the child being collected for the day or further than that, excluded. Parents as outlined in the code of conduct should collect their child upon request. Any refusal to do so will be passed on to the safeguarding officer of Venture Camps and referred to local authorities.

Venture Camps are committed to working with Ofsted, The Out of School Alliance and Kent County Council to ensure we continue to promote an inclusive environment across all our camps and with all our staff.