

## Local Offer: Childminders



Special Educational  
Needs & Disability

<b>1. Your name and Ofsted number:</b> Karen Mitchell, EY242289
<b>2. If you work with another childminder does anyone specialise in SEN and</b> I work alone but attend regular training.
<b>3. Provide a short paragraph about your ethos/mission statement for including children and young people with Special Educational Need and Disability (SEND). How do you aim to meet the unique needs of the child?</b>
All children are considered as equal in my setting, I believe they have a right to play, learn and be able to develop to their full potential alongside other children in a fun yet stimulating environment. I observe individual children in their play, plan their next steps around this & implement their individual needs into everyday life.
<b>4. How do you identify that a child is not meeting appropriate age related milestones and what do you do in this case? How do you find out what matters to the child and their family?</b>
I watch & observe the child, summarising their 'age & stage' at least four times a year, tracking this development to identify if progress is being made. I will contact my co-ordinator with any concerns I may have, complete the relevant forms & find out any information I can that I can pass to the child's parents. I will work with parents from the very beginning in order to achieve the best result for their child. I use verbal contact, daily diaries, text messages, emails & questionnaires in order to find out what matters to the child & their family.
<b>5. How do you promote positive relationships and ensure good, ongoing communication with families? How will families know what progress their children are making, how to access additional support and what they can do at home to help?</b>
I talk to the families, meet with them in their own home where required & communicate through diaries, text messages & emails. Every time I do a summary of the child's development I send home the child's learning journal along with a questionnaire for the parent to complete with reference to their summary & a section for activities at home. Next steps are encouraged at home as well as at my setting. The parents can ask me for advice on accessing additional support & I will endeavor to access the appropriate service with them.
<b>6. How will you communicate with other providers who care for a child, or with providers who will be caring for the child? How do you support children to experience a smooth transition to school or a different situation?</b>
I send a 'go between' book if a child attends another setting (with permission from parents) so we can work together on development, next steps & share any thoughts we may have. I also attend meetings at the local primary school to discuss their development. I complete a transition form before a child starts school or attends another setting, working together with the parents on this.

**7. How do you provide an enabling environment for all the children in your care? Are there quiet areas and fully accessible spaces? What other adjustments can you make? What about the physical environment in and outside your setting?**

I live in a 2 bedroomed house so my lounge & diner is my playroom. It can be accessed through the front door which is up a small step, into a small hallway before turning into the lounge. I have a flat, open plan garden that has a step down to it but is fully enclosed. A slope could be put down to the garden if needed. I provide a wide range of resources for all areas of development that can be used on floor level & on low level tables & all children can choose to be involved in all activities I provide.

**8. There is an opportunity here for you to tell families what experience you have of working with children with additional needs.**

I have supported children with speech delays, working together with the parents to find them the right support & these children are thriving in main stream school. I have also worked with parents who had concerns on their child's behaviour. We worked together on this & sourced the right support, gaining great results in the long run.