

ABC Early Learning & Childcare Centre – Local Offer

ABC Childcare standards for learning, development and care for children

Here at ABC Childcare we are committed to providing a setting which is accessible and safe, challenging and rewarding for all children and their families. At the heart of our practice we are devoted to offering high quality care and education adopting an inclusive approach in our bespoke purpose built setting. ABC Childcare:

- Adhere to and follow the Early Years Foundation Stage.
- Promote individual learning characteristics in a stimulating, challenging environment.
- Use a key worker approach to ensure each child feels safe and secure.
- Adapt activities to ensure inclusive practice.
- Set policies including S.E.N.D (Special Education Needs and Disability) and behaviour management to maintain high standards.
- Has designated leads who are responsible for and specifically trained in S.E.N.D, behaviour management and ENCO (Equalities Named Coordinator).
- Create and maintain high quality indoor and outdoor environments for playing and learning.
- Are active within the local community.

In addition, our Codsall centre hosts specific learning spaces, including a library, heuristic playroom, music room and a sensory room.

How will ABC Childcare support and prepare your child to join ABC Childcare?

Each child and family is important to us and we understand how difficult it is for parents/carers to leave their children in a place that is unfamiliar to them. We appreciate the importance of building trust and positive relationships at the onset of a family enquiring about our Centres.

- Families are invited to view our Centre where a comprehensive tour will be offered and an introduction to all staff members. Discussions will take place at this time about your child's individual needs.
- Two settling in sessions will be offered for your child where you will have the opportunity to meet your child's key worker and see the room which they will be based in. During this time, we will discuss any necessary measures we may need to take to ensure your child is safe, engaged and included in as many of our activities as possible.
- Families are asked to complete a baseline assessment before your child begins at the Centre. This is an assessment of your child's development as you see it, before they join us at ABC Childcare. This baseline assessment ensures that our practitioners are able to assess your child's progress on their learning journey and helps to plan how we can best support them.
- Any other professionals already working alongside your family will be invited to attend a meeting with a member of the Management team and designated lead person to ensure all the needs of your child are met. This support will be ongoing during the duration of your time with us.
- Our rooms are separated by age ranges: Babies (3 months – 1 year), Toddlers (1–2 years), Juniors (2 – 3 years) and Pre-school (over 3s). Whilst the rooms children are in will generally follow an age range, children develop at different rates and when deciding which environment is best for your child, their age alone will never be the deciding factor.

How is the decision made about what type and how much support your child will receive?

If we feel your child may need additional support, our highly skilled Practitioners will take time to observe, assess and discuss any outcomes with you. If necessary, and always with your consent, our Centre designated lead Practitioners may begin an Early Help Assessment. This Early Help Assessment will help identify if and where any extra support is needed ABC Childcare and from outside agencies. Consent from parents/carers will always be sought before any outside professionals are contacted.

- ABC Childcare works in partnership with parents/carers. This enables open discussion, continuity and overall, it best supports your child.
- We will also follow instruction about the amount of support your child will receive through any agencies involved.

How do ABC Childcare communicate with parents/carers about their child's progress and how are parents/carers involved in decision making and planning?

Communication is crucial for us to ensure that your child receives the best care and education. Parents/carers will always be consulted when we make decisions about support for their child.

- Regular meetings will take place between the Management team, designated lead Practitioners, key workers and other professionals involved.
- Individual development plans are drawn between the designated lead and other professionals involved. These plans are monitored by the designated lead alongside the child's key worker and targets are reviewed regularly.
- Communication books can be used to write messages between the Centre, any other setting your child may attend and home.
- Daily detailed handovers are given from staff members to parents/carers to ensure all relevant information is shared.
- Each child has their own learning journey which documents their learning and development progress and can be viewed at any time.
- Our experienced Practitioners will offer support and guidance to parents/carers.
- We have an open door policy whereby anyone who wishes to discuss any matters, can approach the Centre at any time convenient to them.
- In addition, we actively encourage parents/carers to make comments and suggestions using our parent communication box or via e-mail (feedback@abcchildcarecentres.co.uk)
- Development reviews are carried out between parents/carers and key workers to ensure parents are kept up to date with any development changes, including any ongoing support in place.
- The designated lead will attend or may actively host any T.A.F. (Team Around the Family) meetings that may be required. This will be alongside the family and any other agencies that may be involved in supporting your child.

How will the curriculum be matched to my child's individual needs?

At ABC Childcare we follow the Early Years Foundation Stage, which can be adapted to meet the requirements of all children's individual needs.

- All Practitioners will follow activities suitable for your child's developmental age rather than their age expectation.
- ABC Childcare regularly observes, assesses and tracks your child's development. Our experienced Practitioners will use the results to decide what they will put in to place to progress your child further.
- ABC Childcare will conduct a 2 year check to assess your child's development. The check can then be shared with your health visitor (who will also conduct their own 2 year check).
- All our environments are suitable and accessible to all children and can be adapted to ensure that all children can take part in given activities.
- Our Pre-school children and Practitioners adopt a teaching in the moment practice, which ensures numerous interactions on any given day.
- Under 3s enjoy a mix of adult led and child initiated activities.

What support will there be for my child's overall well-being?

Your child's well-being is paramount to us, therefore we ensure that:

- A comprehensive set of policies and procedures are adhered to at all times.
- We carry out Risk Assessments wherever necessary.
- All meals are nutritious and freshly made onsite, following our strict healthy eating policy which includes snacks that children can bring from home.
- Dietary requirements (including allergies, intolerances, cultural and religious beliefs) are all met and healthy alternatives provided where necessary.
- All our Practitioners are trained in Safeguarding Level 1 and Paediatric First Aid.
- Our equality and diversity policy dictates inclusion - this is displayed throughout the Centre, and is imbedded in our practice including our displays, activities and resources.

How are our resources allocated and matched to children with special educational needs?

There are a range of resources at ABC Childcare including new, bespoke, specialised to natural.

- All resources are risk assessed before they are allocated for use.
- Resources compliment developmental ages.
- Appropriate resources are selected considering the individual needs of the children we care for.
- All resources are monitored for wear and tear and are dealt with appropriately, either repaired or discarded.
- Practitioners are aware of how to use resources effectively to promote challenge and interest.
- Most resources are readily accessible by the children. In addition, there are separate resources that can be used on a 1:1 basis with the designated lead or key worker.

Transferring to a new setting or the next stage of education and life

We understand that this time can be stressful for both children and parents alike. We aim to make all transitions as smooth as possible, whether the transition is from one age range to the next, or on to another setting.

- During transitions to a new room within ABC Childcare, the individual child's developmental progress and individual needs are comprehensively documented. A child's current key worker will also meet with the child's new key worker to discuss and support the documentation and ensure continuity.
- Parents/carers are encouraged to visit their child's new room and meet all the staff that work within it. This will familiarise parents/carers with the new environment, possible routine changes and new key worker.
- Any designated leads involved will automatically be involved in transitions.
- When your child moves on from ABC Childcare on to a school environment, we invite your child's new class teacher into our Centre to meet with your child and to speak with their key worker and any designated leads involved with your child's development.
- A TAF (Team Around the Family) meeting will be arranged to give you the opportunity to discuss targets, development, concerns and queries with their current key worker, designated leads from both settings and the new class teacher.
- Wherever possible, ABC Childcare facilitate your child's key worker and designated lead accompanying you and your child to their new school. Here they will help to assess the environment and routine and will help determine any changes that may be needed to best accommodate the individual needs of your child.