

TURNCROFT NURSERY SCHOOL

SEN INFORMATION REPORT – September 2025



1. What kinds of special educational needs do we make provision for in our school? (Regulation 1)

Our Mission Statement

“Turncroft Nursery School...the place for learning and laughter.”

Turncroft Nursery School is a Local Authority Educational establishment providing places for children the year prior to starting Primary school. We have one hundred places across the day and we also offer extended services during our opening hours 8:00am to 4:30pm.

We are committed to an inclusive education for all pupils and aim to provide a learning environment which is flexible enough to meet the needs of all members of our school community. We are committed to providing inclusive, high-quality education tailored to meet the needs of individual children. We recognised that every child is unique, and we work closely with families to identify, support, and nurture children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) at the earliest opportunity.

We offer parental workshops and family support as well as liaising with many and varied professionals. We have a well - established staff, who work very effectively as a team and we have a very supportive Governing Body.

We see Turncroft Nursery School as the first stage in your child's state educational journey. We strive to build on the excellent work you have already done as parents and to support you in helping your child develop his/her potential. We recognise the value of Nursery Education for all children but especially for those with Special Educational Needs and disabilities.

Our nursery supports children across the four areas of need as outlined in the SEND code of practice:

- 1. Communication and Interaction**
- 2. Cognition and Learning**
- 3. Social, Emotional and Mental Health**
- 4. Sensory and/or Physical Needs**

The Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator(SENCo) is Mrs Gayle Berry who has responsibility for the day-to-day implementation of the SEND Policy and for co-ordinating provision for children with SEND including making referrals to other services and professionals and making initial and summative assessments. Mrs Gayle Berry will work with staff, parents and other agencies to consider the best ways to support a child in our school so that they make appropriate progress in their learning. Mrs Gayle Berry will collect, record and update information about individual children with Special Education Needs and Disabilities and will liaise with teachers and support staff in school regarding interventions, their outcomes and next steps. Our SENCO will SENCO will arrange and chair any necessary meetings such as CAF meetings, SEN review meetings, transition meetings and EHCP meetings.

We also offer Family Support to support parents with concerns such as sleeping, toileting, healthy eating and diet, toothbrushing and behaviour management.

2. How does our school know if your child needs extra help? (Regulation 2)

At Turncroft Nursery School, we believe in working closely with families. We have initial meetings for new parents/carers which provides a good opportunity to discuss any concerns or needs they wish to discuss.

We visit parents and children in their home prior to starting which helps us to determine any possible support which may be needed or strategies we may implement. First and foremost, we like to familiarise ourselves with each individual child and find out what their needs and interests are in a play-based environment.

Our induction process gives the opportunity to highlight any possible additional needs. Observations, assessments and meetings with parents are used to inform us regarding children's achievements and progress. We use the Early Years Foundation Stage development matters to judge where and how children are achieving.

We allow children to settle in and become familiar and build secure relationships with their key workers, peers and teachers in nursery. We take a proactive approach to identifying and supporting children who may require extra help. Our staff are trained to observe, assess and respond to individual needs to ensure every child receives the support they require.

We observe children's development during daily activities and play. We use the Cherry Garden Assessment Document to assess children's progress in key areas such as communication and language, personal, social and emotional development and physical development.

We use the Wellcomm language screening to assess children's language and understanding.

We encourage open communication and listen to any concerns raised by parents. Parents are involved in the process of determining targets and reviews of Pupil Support Plans as part of our Assess, Plan, Do, Review process. We

encourage regular SEN review meetings to discuss their child's individual progress and to celebrate their achievements.

We work with external professionals such as health visitors, GP's and specialists such as speech therapists or paediatricians who may identify developmental needs during routine checks.

We work closely with the Early Years SEND team who we make referrals to if we feel we need further advice and guidance to support a child. We liaise regularly with our link SEND Advisory teacher, Mrs Gemma Carr, who regularly visits children in nursery. We follow any advice and guidance from the Early Years SEND Team and make reasonable adjustments where necessary or suggested.

3. Who can you speak to at our school if you think your child may have special educational needs? (Regulation 4)

If you have concerns about your child, you can come and discuss them at any time. You can talk to any of the following people:-

- Your child's Key Person**
- Our Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCO) – Mrs Gayle Berry**
- Our Head teacher – Mrs Gayle Berry**
- Our Early Year Teacher – Miss Emma Ward**
- Special Support Assistant or Early Years Advisory Teacher – Gemma Carr (if your child has been identified as needing more support)**
- You may prefer to talk to your child's Health Visitor or GP.**

4. How do we know what progress your child is making and how will we keep you informed? (Regulations 3a, 3b, 7 and 8)

Monitoring progress is an integral part of what we do here at Turncroft Nursery School. Through the data collected in school we are able to look at the progress made by all of our children and within this those children with additional needs and make judgements about their rate of progress. This is monitored by our Headteacher/SENCo, Mrs Gayle Berry and our Governors.

Reviews of Individual Education Plans (APDR) will also indicate the level of progress being made and any further targets which may be needed. These are discussed as appropriate with parents and professionals, as we follow the 'assess, plan, do, review' model. We will review your child's progress every half term and arrange parental meetings with our SENCO (Special Educational Needs Coordinator) to ensure that you are fully informed and actively involved in your child's learning journey. This approach emphasizes regular communication and collaboration with the SENCO to support the child's development.

Our designated governor for SEND is Mr Damian Collins. He attends termly meetings with the SENCo to receive updates and attends training on a range of subjects provided by Governor Services. Our open door policy provides parents and families with the opportunity for open discussion although sometimes an appointment is needed on occasions.

5. How will our school support your child and how will the teaching be adapted to meet their needs? (Regulation 3d)

We are committed to giving every child the opportunity to achieve. We do this by offering a wide ranging curriculum that is differentiated by our Teacher/SENCO and Key Person to support the specific needs of your child.

We are a fully inclusive school that takes reasonable action to ensure that your child can access all learning opportunities. For further details of how we do this, please take a look at our inclusion policy which is also published on our school website.

The following points are important in terms of how we work together;

- We will seek your consent in order to make any necessary referrals for assessment and support**
- We will discuss any concerns on a regular basis**
- We may adapt or personalise resources or staffing to meet your child's individual needs**
- We will set appropriate targets to be included in PSPs (APDR process) and review these with you at least half termly**
- We will refer your child with your consent to other professional services such as the Early Help and Early Years Service, Speech and Language Therapy, Community Paediatricians, Developmental Language Disorder Team, Hearing Impairment, Visual Impairment and Physical Development Team and will attend any relevant meetings.**

6. How are decisions made about the type and how much support my child will receive? (Regulation 6)

At Turncroft Nursery School, we are committed to providing the appropriate support for children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) to ensure they thrive in their learning journey. We offer a range of support tailored to each child's individual needs, which may include:

- **Programmes of work** designed to meet the specific learning needs of the child. This may include targeted interventions.
- **Support from nursery staff** to model activities, guide children through tasks, and provide individualised help, ensuring they can engage with the nursery routine and participate in all activities.
- **Specialist input** from professionals such as the Early Years SEND Team, Educational Psychologists, Speech and Language Therapists, Occupational Therapists, Health Visitors, and Paediatricians to provide expert advice and interventions.
- **Specialist equipment** may be required to support children's needs, which can be sourced through the **Early Help and Early Years Service**.

We refer children to the borough's Early Help & Early Years's Service, who offers us advice and guidance on how we can support children in nursery and what strategies we can put in place to support children further. Otherwise, children are supported by the school SENCo, Key Person and staff delivering interventions 1-1 and/or in small groups.

We also apply for funding for children who are eligible or need additional support to meet their needs. This funding may include:

- **Special Educational Needs Inclusion Funding (SENIF)** to support children with SEND.
- **Emergency Needs High Funding** for children requiring immediate or higher levels of support.

- **Disability Living Allowance funding, where applicable, to assist with additional care, resourcing or equipment needs.**

If, through discussion with yourself, the SENCO and other staff in our school, it is agreed that your child will need specific support in the short or long term, an application may be made to the local authority for an ‘Education, Health and Care Plan’. This process can be detailed on the borough’s ‘Local Offer’ website.

Meetings are held to determine the level of support required with parents and professionals in partnership.

With parents’ consent, information is then shared with the Education and Health Care Panel who will decide the level of support for entering primary school.

7. How will our school help you to support your child’s learning? (Regulation 7)

We actively encourage you as a parent to be involved in your child’s learning. Here are some of the following ways that we may support you-

- **Through sharing information and setting individual targets in Individual Education Plans (Assess, Plan, Do, Review process)**
- **Through events held during the year where parents/carers can attend our school alongside their child**
- **Practical strategies to support you and your child at home**
- **Signposting to training e.g. Makaton, Supporting using Visuals at home etc.**
- **Access to our website which has a plethora of information and useful links**
- **Signposting to groups who can also support the well-being of the family**
- **Facilitating meetings with other professionals where necessary**

- By sharing your child's learning achievements using our online 'Tapestry' journal
- Personalised family support from our Headteacher and SENCO
- Community evenings for parents/carers
- Progress reports for parents/carers
- Regular SEND review meetings with parents/carers

8. What specialist services and expertise are available or accessible through our school? (Regulations 3e and 11)

At Turncroft Nursery School we have an experienced staff that have accessed relevant training such as Speech and Language support.

We access services such as;

- Speech therapy
- Early Years SEND Support Service and Advisory Teachers
- Educational Psychologist
- Health Professionals
- Occupational Therapy
- Social Services
- Mental Health Team
- Wish Centre
- Health Visitors
- Physiotherapy Team
- Hearing Impaired Team
- Visually Impaired Team
- SENDIAS

Contact details are available in our school for these partnership agencies.

Each year we review and refine our provision and policy. We access additional training and services as necessary to meet the needs of our children.

In school we have targeted interventions which allow us to support all of our children in specific areas which they may need additional support.

9. How are the staff in school supported to work with children with special educational needs and what training do they have? (Regulation 5)

We access the local authority programme of training and development for all staff, including statutory safeguarding training.

We access training appropriate to the needs of our intake of children each year.

The SENCO has a range of experience in working with young children, their families and professionals.

All members of staff are trained in Makaton to help with children's communication needs.

Other training we have accessed includes-

- WELLCOMM**
- Attention for Learning**
- Nurture groups**
- Getting connected – supporting children with social communication difficulties**
- Basic Signing**
- Speech and Language in Education Intensive Support**
- Behaviour Management**
- Visual Impairment**
- Manual Handling**
- First Aid**
- Training for specific medical conditions such diabetes, epilepsy and allergies**

We have a very experienced staff who are committed to inclusive practice for all.

10. How will our school ensure that your child is included in activities outside the classroom, including physical activities and school trips? (Regulation 3f)

We are committed to providing all children with the opportunity to participate in a wide range of activities, both within the nursery and beyond, to enrich their learning experiences. While we do encourage external trips, we also recognise the value of bringing experiences to the nursery, allowing children to broaden their horizons without leaving the familiar environment.

To help achieve this, we invite visitors, such as local community members and experts, to come into the nursery and engage the children in a variety of enriching experiences. These visits provide valuable learning opportunities that support the development of all children in a safe, familiar setting.

For any off-site trips, we request annual consent from parents or carers. A full risk assessment is carried out in consultation with you to ensure that your child's individual needs are considered, and that they are able to participate fully. We always meet or exceed the minimum adult:child ratios, and children with an assisted nursery place will be accompanied by their support assistant during such trips.

In the nursery, we also offer a large outdoor play area equipped with a variety of resources to cater for different abilities and interests, ensuring that all children can engage in physical activities and learn through play.

11. How will our school support your child's overall wellbeing? (Regulation 3g)

The well-being of your child is central to the ethos of our school. Our open door policy and proactive approach to dealing with any concerns or issues that your child is facing enables Turncroft to provide a happy, safe and caring environment. The emotional wellbeing of your child is extremely important to us and our staff are there to provide help

and support to both you and your child, so feel free to contact our Headteacher if you have any concerns. Key policies are available on our school website.

Types of support may include the following;

- If your child has a medical need then a care plan will be prepared in consultation with you and the appropriate medical practitioners.
- All of our staff are trained in paediatric first aid
- Use of a 'Box of Feelings' to explore emotions and circle time activities
- Weekly Nurture groups to provide social and emotional support to children
- Social development for your child
- Staff develop warm relationships with children and model positive relationships through their interactions with others in school
- We have a system such as our "Star of the Week" board to encourage positive behaviour
- We have a key worker system and provide interventions through a smaller group support for children
- We monitor attendance carefully, giving support to families who may find attendance or punctuality challenging
- Where beneficial a Common Assessment Framework(CAF) may be written and meetings with parents and professionals
- Observation helps us collectively to form a picture regarding children's individual interests and preferences to maximise their enthusiasm for learning. Your contributions here are vital to us so that we can provide the best possible learning enhancements.

12. How accessible is our school both indoors and outdoors for children with special educational needs? (Requirement of the SEND Code of Practice)

Our school is fully accessible.

Full details are available in our accessibility policy on our school website.

- **Carpeted Areas**
- **Changing Bed**
- **Shower facilities**
- **Disabled Toilet**
- **Microphones available for children with Hearing Impairment**
- **Ramps for wheelchair access**
- **Building is on one level**
- **Disabled parking bay**
- **Resources are purchased where necessary to make adjustments to support children**

13. How will our school prepare and support your child when joining our school and when transferring to a new school? (Regulation 12)

- **You can access ‘taster’ sessions for your child before they start in our nursery**
- **We have meetings for new parents**
- **We have home visits prior to your child starting with us. Your child’s keyperson and another member of staff visit you at home to discuss starting school. This can be an extended visit as we are aware there may be a great deal of information to share.**
- **Parents stay with their child on the first day and we have a staggered intake, which is determined by the child’s age and needs**

- We have specific primary school transition meetings which involve handing over information to staff from feeder schools
- We have visits from staff from feeder Primary schools where we talk about each child's specific needs
- We take some children on transitional visits to their Primary school with support staff where this is felt to be beneficial
- We make resources such as a photograph transition book so that children become familiar with their new school and staff

14. Who can you contact for further information? (Regulations 9 and 13)

Name: Mrs Gayle Berry – SENCo

Mrs Gayle Berry – Headteacher

Phone: 01254 701534

Email: office@turncroft.blackburn.sch.uk

Website: www.turncroftnurseryschool.co.uk

The following documents can also be found by following the web link above and going to 'Key Information' tab and clicking on 'Special Educational Needs and Disabilities';

- SEND Policy
- Accessibility Plan
- Local Offer Contribution
- Inclusion Policy

If you have concerns relating to the school provision, please speak to the Headteacher/SENCO. The formal complaints procedure can be accessed on our website.

Our Governing Body has a designated SEND Governor, Damien Collins, responsible for reviewing practice and supporting the SENCO, she may also be contacted via the school postal address.

Blackburn with Darwen's local offer sets out a range of support and services available to you and your child.

This can be accessed at [About the local offer | Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council](#)