

## **Special Needs Policy**

**Olveston Out of School Club is aware that some children have special educational needs and/or physical disabilities, that require particular support and assistance. We are committed to taking appropriate action to make sure that all children are able to access our services, made to feel welcome, and that our activities promote their welfare and development.**

### **Inclusion**

The Club is committed to the integration of all children in its care. The Club also believes that children with special educational needs and/or physical disabilities have a right to play, learn and be able to develop to their full potential alongside other children. Whenever possible, children with special educational needs and/or physical disabilities will have access to the same facilities, activities and play opportunities as their peers. Everybody stands to gain if all children are allowed to share the same opportunities and are helped to overcome any disadvantages that they may face.

The policies, procedures and practices of the Club in relation to children with special educational needs and/or physical disabilities are consistent with current legislation and guidance. These include the Special Educational Needs and Disability Act 2001 and the Disability Discrimination Act 1995.

The Club believes that by identifying individual needs and taking proactive steps alongside parents/carers and other statutory professionals or agencies, all children should be able to play a full, active and equal part in the Club's activities.

### **Staffing**

All members of staff will be responsible for children with special educational needs and/or physical disabilities.

Staff responsibilities will include:

- Being aware of all legislation, regulations and other guidance on working with children with special educational needs and/or physical disabilities.
- Ensuring they have appropriate skills and training.
- Ensuring that any actions following agency reviews are followed through.
- Assessing each child's specific needs and adapting the Club's facilities, procedures, practices and activities as appropriate.

Club Managers responsibilities will include:

- Ensuring that systems are in place to adequately implement the Special Needs policy.

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## *Olveston Out of School Club*

*Olveston Primary School*

- Ensuring that children with special educational needs and/or physical disability are fully considered when activities are being planned and prepared.
- Liaising with parents/carers about the needs of their children and the plans and actions of the Club, as well as being the point of contact for parents/carers.
- Liaising with other agencies and seeking advice, support and training for themselves and other staff as is necessary.
- Supporting other members of staff to become more skilled and experienced in the care of children with special educational needs and/or physical disabilities.
- Ensuring that all children are treated with equal concern and respect and are encouraged to take part in all activities.

September 2006