The Role of the Special Educational Needs Inclusion Fund (SENIF) Practitioner

"Supporting settings to support children with special educational needs."

Information for Settings



Play, Learn and Grow...





What you can expect from SENIF Practitioner visits

The SENIF Practitioner will normally undertake an initial observation visit and this may be a joint visit with the child's Specialist Teacher. Targets or a focus of support will be agreed which may be those outlined by the Specialist Teacher at LIFT, or targets from the Specialist Teacher Record of Visit and other professionals.

Support from the SENIF Practitioner is bespoke to the child and early years setting for a block of up to six sessions. The visits may vary in number and frequency, and some may be by telephone or conducted virtually.

The SENIF Practitioner will be in the setting for up to one and a half hours. They may request a quiet place to meet with the child and Key Person or SENCO. Throughout the intervention the SENIF Practitioner works alongside the same Early Years Practitioner, usually the child's Key Person. This is with the agreement of the Setting Manager.

During each visit the SENIF Practitioner will work directly with the Early Years Practitioner and the child sharing, modelling and discussing activity ideas, strategies and advice from the Specialist Teacher or other professionals to support the child's individual learning and development.

An Action Plan will be left with the setting or emailed after each visit.

At the start of the following visit the SENIF Practitioner will discuss activities undertaken since the previous visit, how the suggested activities and advice has been implemented and the impact of this. At the end of the intervention the SENIF Practitioner will hold a review with the SENCO or Key Person to discuss the impact of the intervention for the child, the staff and the setting.

A comprehensive Record of Intervention will be sent by secure email following completion of the intervention.

We ask that that the setting let parents/carers know a SENIF Practitioner will be visiting and the dates and times of the sessions.

If a parent/carer would like to speak to the SENIF Practitioner during the intervention, please speak to the SENIF Practitioner to arrange this.

The SENIF Practitioner will not be able to offer advice regarding other children attending your setting.

It is the responsibility of the setting to notify the SENIF Practitioner as soon as possible if the child is absent or if the visit needs to be rescheduled.

Your SENIF Practitioner is:

Contact phone number:

Contact email:

Leaflet 3 - updated March 2024