

CHILDREN WITH ADDITIONAL NEEDS

“Additional Needs” refers to children who are diagnosed with:

- ★ **Developmental delay**
- ★ **Physical difficulty**, including sight and hearing
- ★ **Intellectual difficulty**
- ★ **Speech and Language delay** or
- ★ **Health concerns - *medically diagnosed*** (conditions such as Cystic fibrosis, epilepsy)

Parents of children with additional needs often feel quite concerned when the time comes for their child to begin Preschool and this is very well appreciated and understood. Early forward planning is the key to a successful transition into Preschool. Educators can then liaise with other agencies who work with you and your child to gain valuable insights and advice concerning the best ways to support your child in the Preschool setting. Documents such as assessments and programmes are also shared with your permission.

Following an initial meeting between parents and staff, children are referred to the DfE for support. Children may be eligible for funding to support them throughout the Preschool day. Some children have an individual learning programme, often during the small group time. Others are supported within the regular programme at group times and during spontaneous play times. The children are supported by one of our SSOs.

Because Preschoolers are very young children, some areas of concern will have not been recognised or addressed as yet. These may include **Speech and Language development** (pronunciation of certain sounds or blends or the ability to express needs and ideas) or **motor development** (such as pencil and scissor skills or balance and coordination).

If you have a concern about your child's development, your Paediatrician, GP or CAFHs nurse is a valuable professional to contact for advice.

Once your child has been offered a place at Wynn Vale Preschool, please phone the Preschool on 82893915 as soon as possible so that the Preschool educators can put support into place where it is needed.

We work together in partnership with you and your family, sharing the same goals of a happy, secure and successful transition for your child into their Preschool year.