The SEN Inclusion Fund

offer in Kent

“supporting settings to support children with special educational needs”

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**SEN Inclusion Fund**

The SEN Inclusion Fund (SENIF) is a statutory requirement made available by KCC to enable settings, childminders and out of school providers supporting pre-school children with special educational needs to secure better outcomes. It is not designed to provide 1:1 support as research has shown that this is not the best way to support the majority of children.

It forms part of the offer to settings including SENIF Practitioner interventions and centrally funded training opportunities.

SENIF Practitioners are

Early Years Professionals employed by the Local Authority who have worked extensively in the Early Years sector as Portage Practitioners, SPARKLE Practitioners or SENCos / Managers of pre-school settings in Kent.

Once an application for SENIF has been agreed, consideration is given at the termly Multi Agency Planning (MAP) meetings as to the additional support that could be offered as part of the SENIF Package. This could take the form of a 6 week intervention alongside the child’s keyperson by a SENIF Practitioner and / or the offer of centrally funded training for setting staff.

Training that may be offered will be delivered by the Equality & Inclusion Team or Specialist Teaching and Learning Service and will be pertinent to the needs of the child.

 **Role of the SENIF Practitioner:**

* To support settings to implement Personalised Plans, advice and programmes, provided by professionals to enable children to make progress and fully access the EYFS.
* To model ways of working and advise on strategies suggested by Specialist Teachers.
* To support settings on occasions when a child transitions from an Observation & Assessment Nursery Placement to their pre-school setting.
* To work with the child *and*the keyperson for a minimum period of 6 weeks with the aim of supporting setting practitioners to continue working with the child independently after that period of time.
* To sometimes visit the setting to give advice around forms and paperwork that need to be completed..
* To provide guidance to EY Settings regarding a range of resources and training that will support and encourage learning to take place for those children in receipt of SEN Inclusion Funding.

 **Role of the Monitoring Officer:**

* To monitor and evaluate the provision for individual children in receipt of SEN Inclusion Funding attending PVI settings, maintained nursery classes and childminders, ensuring that they are making appropriate educational progress.