



November 2020

Newsletter

So, we are well into our first term of the new academic year which started in September 2020. It goes without saying that we had to make some changes to the way we operate on a daily basis due to the pandemic, Covid- 19. One of the biggest challenges is not having parents & carers entering the building each day to drop off and collect their little ones. This has probably impacted the adults more than it's impacted our children. Our children have enjoyed rising to the challenge of walking in to the building on their own. We've seen the great sense of independence it's given them and we have had very little separation anxiety. Emotional support is always a big focus for us, especially at a time when we have a large intake of new children which always happens in September it's more important now ever before. However, we continue to maintain our normal strategies of tracking development. A big impact of the pandemic for us is that our children who have been identified as needing or possibly needing additional support have not been able to access the health professionals as they normally would, paediatricians, speech and language therapists, portage to name but a few. So, we have engaged a private speech and language therapist. We have a schedule in place for regular visits so they can observe and develop strategies and then for our key workers to implement these in order that we can continue to support these children to make the best progress possible.

We are lucky (and a little bit special) in the fact that we have a dedicated Special Education Needs & Disabilities Co-ordinator (SEND) on our team. In fact we won the NDNA champion award back in 2017 for our SEND provision and we continue to support and work hard for our children and their families every day.