

SEND POLICY

Mending Lines

Statement of Intent

Mending Lines is committed to providing an inclusive, supportive, and accessible environment for children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND).

We recognise that every learner is different and may require varying levels of support, flexibility, understanding, and reasonable adjustment in order to engage positively with provision.

Our approach is centred around relationship-based practice, small group delivery, outdoor learning, emotional wellbeing, and creating opportunities for success.

Aims

The aims of this policy are to:

- support learners with SEND to access provision safely and positively
 - provide an inclusive and nurturing environment
 - identify and respond to individual needs
 - work collaboratively with families, schools, and professionals
 - promote confidence, wellbeing, and engagement
 - provide reasonable adjustments wherever possible
 - reduce barriers to participation and learning
-

Areas of Need

Mending Lines may support learners with a range of needs including:

- SEMH (Social, Emotional and Mental Health)
- autism
- ADHD
- anxiety-based school avoidance

- trauma-related needs
- communication difficulties
- sensory needs
- learning difficulties
- behavioural challenges
- low confidence and self-esteem

We recognise that some learners may have diagnosed needs, while others may be awaiting assessment or require additional support without a formal diagnosis.

Our Approach

Provision is delivered through:

- small group environments
- outdoor and practical learning
- angling and wellbeing activities
- calm and supportive routines
- relationship-based support
- flexible engagement approaches
- reduced-pressure learning opportunities
- consistent adult support

We understand that some learners may require time to build trust, confidence, and emotional safety before fully engaging.

Reasonable Adjustments

Where reasonably possible, Mending Lines will make adjustments to support access and participation.

This may include:

- flexible session approaches
- adapted communication styles
- movement or sensory breaks

- reduced group sizes
- additional adult support where appropriate
- individual risk assessments
- visual or practical learning approaches
- adjusted expectations during periods of dysregulation or anxiety

Adjustments will always be balanced alongside the safety and wellbeing of all participants.

Communication & Partnership Working

Mending Lines values partnership working and aims to maintain positive communication with:

- parents/carers
- schools
- local authorities
- social workers
- SEND teams
- other professionals involved with the learner

Where appropriate, information may be shared regarding:

- engagement
 - wellbeing
 - attendance
 - behaviour
 - progress
 - support strategies
-

Behaviour & Emotional Regulation

We recognise that behaviour is often a form of communication.

Our approach focuses on:

- understanding underlying needs

- de-escalation
- relationship building
- emotional regulation support
- predictable boundaries
- positive reinforcement
- restorative approaches where appropriate

We aim to create an environment where learners feel safe, respected, and supported.

Staff Knowledge & Training

Mending Lines aims to ensure staff and volunteers receive appropriate guidance and training relevant to the needs of the learners accessing provision.

This may include:

- safeguarding
 - SEND awareness
 - SEMH support strategies
 - autism awareness
 - behaviour support approaches
 - trauma-informed practice
 - first aid and risk management
-

Accessibility

As an outdoor and fishing-based provision, some environments may present limitations.

Mending Lines will always aim to discuss accessibility needs in advance and make reasonable adjustments wherever possible to support participation safely.

Monitoring & Review

Learner needs and support strategies may be reviewed through:

- communication with families and professionals

- ongoing observations
 - progress discussions
 - risk assessment reviews
 - placement review meetings where applicable
-

Policy Review

Policy: SEND Policy

Organisation: Mending Lines

Review Frequency: Annual

Next Review Due: Nov 2026