**Case Study SEND Outreach Service (Early Years)**

**Background information:**

* U was referred to the SEND Outreach Service in November 2019, by his Health Visitor.
* He has a diagnosis of Down Syndrome.
* Mum was keen to take him to toddler groups and get out in the community with him.
* U already had involvement from the Speech and Language Team, he was under a Paediatrician and had recently been discharged from the Physiotherapy Service.

**Actions following my initial home visit:**

* A referral was made to Sure Start to support mum to find local groups / toddler groups in her area.
* A referral was also made to the Toy Library so that U could access more stage appropriate toys.
* U was put on the waiting list for some home play sessions with a Specialist Nursery Nurse, these would begin once U had a place allocated at nursery in preparation for a planned transition into nursery.
* U was invited to Bubbles and Squeaks, an early play and communication intervention group.
* An EHP was considered but it was felt that it was not needed at this stage.

**Timeline of SEND Outreach Involvement:**

* Initial visit November 2019
* Regular joint home visits every 6-8 weeks with the Speech and Language Therapist (some of these were virtual during the pandemic).
* January 2021 U was allocated a place in Nursery to begin in April 2021
* February 2021, Specialist Nursery Nurse allocated to provide weekly home play sessions to get to know U before he began at nursery and to support with transition once he started.
* March 2021, I delivered two training sessions alongside the Speech and Language Team. Session 1: Supporting children with Down Syndrome in the Early Years. Session 2: Makaton Training.
* Applied for EYIF on school’s behalf so this would be in place for him starting nursery.
* April 2021, U began attending nursery supported by Specialist Nursery Nurse one session each week. Sessions were built up very gradually as U had not been away from mum before.
* Termly visits to check on progress alongside Specialist Nursery Nurse
* Attended termly review meetings
* Support with the EHCP process/ paperwork.
* U will be handed over to the school age cognition and learning teacher around October half term.

**Outcomes for U**

* Smooth, well-planned transition with support from a familiar adult from SEND Outreach Service
* School had enough time to plan for U starting and to get resources in place, access training etc.
* School felt well informed and ready for U to start.