



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Wallasey

Disability Policy (Pupils)

Introduction

The policy is drawn up in accordance with the planning duty in the Disability Discrimination Act 1995, as amended by the SEN and Disability Act 2001 (SENDA) and the Disability Discrimination Bill 2005. It draws on the guidance set out in "Accessible Schools: Planning to increase access to schools for disabled pupils", issued by DfES in July 2002.

Definition of Disability

Disability is defined by the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 (DDA) as: "A person has a disability if he or she has a physical or mental impairment that has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on his or her ability to carry out normal day to day activities".

Key Objective

To reduce and eliminate barriers for pupils, and prospective pupils with a disability, in accessing the curriculum and in participating in full in the school community.

Principles

Compliance with the DDA is consistent with the school's aims and equal opportunities policy, and the operation of the school's SEN policy. St Joseph's Catholic Primary School recognises its duty under the DDA (as amended by the SENDA) :

- not to discriminate against disabled pupils in their admissions and exclusions, and provision of education and associated services.
- not to treat disabled pupils less favourably.
- to take reasonable steps to avoid putting disabled pupils at a substantial disadvantage.
- to publish an Accessibility Plan.
- to ensure governors and staff have regard to the DRC Code of Practice (2002) when performing their duties.
- to value parents' knowledge of their child's disability and its effect on his / her ability to carry out normal activities.
- to respect the parents' and child's right to confidentiality.
- to provide all pupils with a broad and balanced curriculum, differentiated and adjusted to meet the needs of individual pupils and their preferred learning styles and to endorse the key principles in the National Curriculum 2000 framework, which underpin the development of a more inclusive curriculum. In so doing, setting suitable learning challenges by: -
 - a) responding to pupils' diverse learning needs.
 - b) overcoming potential barriers to learning and assessment for individuals and groups of pupils.

Activity

This section outlines the main activities which the school undertakes, and is planning to undertake, to achieve the key objective.

• Education and Related Activities

The school will continue to seek and follow the relevant advice, where appropriate, of external services, such as specialist teacher advisers and SEN inspectors / advisers, and of appropriate health professionals from the NHS Trusts.

• Physical Environment

The school will take account of the needs of pupils and visitors with physical difficulties and sensory impairments when planning and undertaking future improvements and refurbishments of the site and premises, such as improved access, lighting, acoustic treatment and colour schemes, and more accessible facilities and fittings.

- **Presentation of Information**

The school will make itself aware of local services, including those provided through the LA, for providing information in alternative formats when required or requested.

- **Policies**

This Plan will contribute to the review and revision of related school policies, e.g.

- School Improvement Plan
- Asset Management Plan
- SEN Policy
- Equal Opportunities Policy
- Teaching and Learning Policy