

GATEWAY FEDERATION

ACCESSIBILITY PLAN

Introduction

This plan 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). 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):

"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, where possible, eliminate barriers to accessing the curriculum and to full participation in The Gateway Federation community for pupils, and prospective pupils, with a disability.

Principles

Compliance with the DDA is consistent with The Gateway Federation aims and Equality Policy, and the operation of the SEND policy. The gateway Federation recognises its duty under the DDA:

- 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

The Gateway Federation recognises and values parents' knowledge of their child's disability and its effect on his/her ability to carry out normal activities, and respects the parents' and child's right to confidentiality.

The Gateway Federation provides all pupils with a broad and balanced curriculum, differentiated and adjusted to meet the needs of individual pupils and their preferred learning styles;

- setting suitable learning challenges
- responding to pupils' diverse learning needs
- overcoming potential barriers to learning and assessment for individuals and groups of pupils.

Activity

a) Education & related activities

The Gateway Federation will continue to seek and follow the advice of LA services, such as specialist teacher advisers and SEND inspectors/advisers, and of appropriate health professionals from the local NHS Trusts.

b) Physical environment

The Gateway Federation will take account of the needs of pupils and visitors with physical difficulties and sensory impairments when planning and undertaking future improvements and refurbishment of the site and premises. We are reviewing teaching areas and assessing acoustics, colour schemes and the accessibility of facilities and fittings.

c) Provision of information

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

Linked Policies

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

- school improvement plan
- SEND policy
- Equality policy
- Curriculum policies.

The plan is also available by e-mail, or in an enlarged print version, on request to the headteacher

Dated: January 2015