

ACCESSIBILITY PLAN

Policy Amended	September 2016
Review Date	
Signed on behalf of Governors	

INTRODUCTION

This plan seeks to address the statutory requirements of the Equality Act 2010, which replaces the Disability Discrimination Act 1995, and to further improve all aspects of the physical environment of the Academy site and other resources so that disabled students can take full advantage of the curriculum provided by the Academy.

The Nuneaton Academy welcomes students, staff and visitors with disabilities. Student's disabilities include:

- A range of behaviour, emotional and social difficulties
- Specific and moderate learning difficulties – autism, asperger, ASD and dyslexia
- Physical disabilities - epilepsy, diabetes, asthma, cerebral palsy, juvenile, arthritis, ehlers danlos syndrome (EDS) and ME (chronic fatigue)

The Academy employs a SENCO and Teaching Assistants as well as additional specialist services – physiotherapist, IDS (integrated disability service) along with regular professional meetings.

ADMISSIONS

Parents of disabled students seeking a place at the Nuneaton Academy are encouraged to make contact with the Academy as early as possible so that the students' needs can be established as early as possible.

The Academy has strong partnerships with the local primary schools. The SENCO visits as part of transition where individual student's needs are discussed.

STEPS TAKEN TO PREVENT DISABLED STUDENTS BEING TREATED LESS FAVOURABLY

Disabled children's needs are discussed with them and parents and detailed plans put in place to ensure that each student can access the whole curriculum

- Different colour overlays or rules to support students with reading
- Access testing of students to identify if they need additional time, a scribe, a reader or a small room these facilities are made available for both internal and external examinations and any assessments
- Handwriting pens/holders to support students with fine motor skills including wider ruled books
- Picture timetables to support EAL students
- Access to laptops for typing

Disabled students are encouraged to participate in educational visits. Special arrangements are put in place which include First Aiders attending and the opportunity for parents/carers to accompany the student on the visit.

ACCESS TO FACILITIES - STUDENTS

- Ramps providing access to all buildings including the sports centre making PE accessible
- Lifts are in Brunel, Franklin and Hubble – students are to have a buddy with them when they use the lift. Making access to all lessons possible
- Evac chairs are located in key areas for evacuation
- Wide doors and corridors
- Low level push button door openers
- Personalised specialist chairs
- Adjustable counters in Technology giving access to practical Technology lessons
- Disabled student toilets
- Library shelving all at low level
- Canteen facilities accessible to all students

ACCESS TO FACILITIES – PARENTS/CARERS

- Ground floor meeting rooms
- Guide dog access
- Disabled parking bays
- Automated doors at the main reception
- Communication via text messaging rather than telephone calls
- Disabled visitor toilets

Additional family members or other visitors with disabilities are welcome to attend the Academy events for which access will be facilitated as required. If you are disabled, or planning to bring a disabled visitor to an Academy event please contact the Business Manager in advance so we can make arrangements to meet your needs.

TEMPORARY DISABILITIES

Some students may experience temporary disabilities following an accident or an illness. In the case of a temporary disability the Academy will complete a risk assessment to accommodate the disability. If required the students timetable will be adapted and additional arrangements will be made where appropriate e.g.

- Leaving lessons early to avoid busy corridors
- In the case of a student using crutches a lift key and buddy
- Laptop in the case of injuries to the hand/arm
- Early lunch to avoid busy canteen

We recognise that some students, parents and visitors may have needs that are not covered by the arrangements above. Please contact the Business Manager to discuss how we can be of assistance.

September 2016

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