



ACCESSIBILITY PLAN

RATIONALE

The definition of disability:

“A person suffers a disability if he or she has a physical or mental impairment which has a substantial and long-term adverse affect on his or her ability to carry out day-to-day activities.”

Included in the definition is a wide range of impairments including sensory, dyslexia, autistic spectrum disorder, diabetes, speech and language, severe asthma and learning difficulties resulting from complex profiles of disability.

The definition of disability has been amended from the 1995 Act to reduce the reliance on the ‘medical model’ for individuals with mental illness, which no longer has to be ‘clinically well recognised’. The definition now includes people with progressive conditions including HIV, multiple sclerosis and cancer.

St David’s C of E Primary School strives to ensure that the culture and ethos of the school are such that, whatever the abilities and needs of members of the school community, everyone is equally valued and treats one another with respect. Pupils should be provided with the opportunity to experience, understand and value diversity.

Ethos, policy and practice

The Learning Outside the Classroom Manifesto, published by the DfES in November 2006 states that:

‘We believe that every young person should experience the world beyond the classroom as an essential part of learning and personal development, whatever their age, ability or circumstances’.

We recognise:

- our duty under the Disability Discrimination Act (2005) (please see the Accessibility Planning Guide’ attached).
- schools and LEAs must:
 - not treat disabled pupils less favourably; and
 - take reasonable steps to avoid putting disabled pupils at a substantial disadvantage (the ‘reasonable adjustment’ duty)
- that Local Education Authority and school governors have the duty to publish Accessibility Strategies and Plans
- under that Act people with disabilities are protected against discrimination

- the general duty requires public authorities to have due regard to the need to promote a positive attitude towards people with disabilities and proactively support equality of opportunity for them
- that public authorities are responsible for meeting their general and specific duties and are requested to review progress and report annually against targets via an 'impact assessment'

AIMS

The School aims to include all pupils, including those with disabilities, in the full life of the school by

1. improving the physical environment of school for the purpose of increasing the extent to which disabled pupils are able to take advantage of education and associated services.
2. increasing the extent to which disabled pupils can participate in the school curriculum
3. improving the delivery of information to pupils with disabilities.

OBJECTIVES

Our strategies to do this will include:

- having high expectations of all pupils
- finding ways in which all pupils can take part in the full curriculum including sport, music, and drama
- planning out-of-school activities including all school trips and excursions so that pupils with disabilities can participate
- setting an admissions policy and criteria which do not discriminate against pupils with disabilities or treat them unfairly
- devising teaching strategies which will remove barriers to learning and participation for pupils with disabilities
- planning the physical environment of the school to cater for the needs of pupils with disabilities
- raising awareness of disability amongst school staff (teaching and non-teaching) through a programme of training
- providing written information for pupils with disabilities in a form which is user-friendly.
- using language which does not offend in all its literature and making staff and pupils aware of the importance of language.

- examining our library and reading books to ensure that there are examples of positive images of disabled people

MONITORING AND REVIEW

This policy will be monitored by the Curriculum committee and reviewed every three years.

Signed P Cobbold Date.....27/06/2012.....
(Chair of Governors)