

Equality & Disability Plan 2018-2020: Disability Equality Plan (DEP) 2018

1. Introduction

This plan sets out how SJS will work to promote disability equality over the year as per the general Equality Scheme and specific duties under the Disability Discrimination Act 2005. SJS prides itself on being inclusive – a genuine community school which welcomes all children from the local area.

2. Involvement of disabled people

The school has used a questionnaire/proforma and public consultation events to gather ideas and inform its DEP actions. Annual returns are usually very limited or none. One parent volunteered to help the school with accessibility issues. The local authority has also supported the Premises Team in annual site evaluation and recently invested in capital works designed to make school safer for wheelchair users.

3. Impact Assessment

There is formal systematic assessment of policies/plans by the governors. Additionally, Link Governors, the Student Council, and all students and parents and carers are asked to comment annually as part of the annual data return.

4. Action Plan to address the disability equality duty

<p>ED/DEP1</p> <p>Promote equality of opportunity between disabled persons and other persons</p> <p>Promote positive attitudes to disability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On-going monitoring • Data • Assemblies • Curriculum content • Monitoring of school displays • Monitoring of school communications including 'readability' 	<p>Resp: All staff</p> <p>End date: On-going</p> <p>Costs: n/a</p>
<p>Success</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Positive contributions via assembly rota • Curricular content modified where appropriate • Inclusive communication • Disabled adults seen around school 	
<p>ED/DEP2</p> <p>Further improve access across the school site and outside activities/trips for wheelchair users to allow full access to curriculum especially in science and technology.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. New mini-bus with wheelchair ramp (Jan 2018) 2. New lift in tech block still problematic 3. Review use of lift chair in science lessons. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess physical access to work benches supports learning 	<p>Resp: PM SEN + Sci</p> <p>End date On-going</p> <p>Cost: no new expenditure</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consideration of impact on movement around the room including • restrictions in event of emergency exit • Replacement chair 	
Success <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes to premises allowing easier physical access • Greater safety at key turning points. 	

5. How policies/practices are monitored.

Monitoring takes place in the appropriate Governor committee as indicated above.

6. How information gathered is used.

Any information gathered is used to reflect on current practice and changes reported to staff and governors. Where possible and appropriate, data and other outcomes from action plans will be reported to parents via the school website (E&D section).

7. Staff Development

Any action points will be reflected in the annual amendment of the School Development Plan (SDP)

8. Annual Reporting

This will follow the pattern of allocated committees as per the action plan.

9. The next disability equality plan

This will be Jan 2019

10. Monitoring

In-year monitoring will take place in one of the relevant committee meetings

11. Comments

- School now has a lifting chair to allow wheelchair users t to reach working surfaces at bench height. This is used mainly in science. This chair has been upgraded.
- The lift in the Technology Block has enabled complete access to graphics and product design suite on first floor but is working erratically
- The school has used a wheelchair-dependent supply teacher to cover classes on numerous occasions during academic years 2014-201s who reported that SJS is the “friendliest and easiest school to navigate around partly because the students are so considerate.”
- Local community had donated its wheelchair friendly mini-bus to the school. Will be used by ARB, school trips and community users.