

Disability Access Statement

General principles

Stockport Academy has high ambitions for its disabled pupils. We expect them to participate, achieve and enjoy their school life and we are fully committed to providing any support that they may need, be it temporary or long term, to ensure they achieve in line with their ability.

This statement has been developed in keeping with the following legislation and reports:

- Education Act 1996
- Disability Discrimination Act (2005)
- The Disability Equality Scheme (2006)
- Equality Act 2010
- 'Support and aspiration: A new approach to special educational needs and disability' (September 2014 – revised and reissued in January 2015)

We make all pupils, staff, parents/carers and visitors feel welcome irrespective of race, gender, colour, creed or impairment and aim to identify and remove any barriers to disabled people.

We are committed to equal opportunities and this is an integral part of our Academy ethos demonstrated by the way we:

- set appropriate learning challenges and targets for all pupils
- are responsive to the diverse needs of pupils and staff
- overcome potential barriers to learning and participation in all areas for individuals and groups of pupils.

Disability equality at Stockport Academy

At Stockport Academy we interpret disability equality in the following ways:

- Using existing data and admissions information to collate information on pupils with disabilities and medical needs to ensure they are given the most appropriate and suitable support.
- Using information about pupils with statements who have disabilities and are to be admitted to school to ensure their needs are met.
- Collecting information on levels of attendance and exclusion for disabled pupils compared to non-disabled pupils.
- Identifying barriers to attendance and working with parents / external agencies to overcome these.
- Identifying reasons for exclusions.
- Revising data and admissions information systems.

- Collecting transition information prior to the pupil starting at Stockport Academy so any additional needs can be identified and addressed – this includes liaising with parents, school nurse, external agencies
- Comparing end of KS results and exam results for disabled pupils and non-disabled pupils and setting appropriate targets.
- Identifying area of the curriculum to which disabled pupils may have limited or no access and addressing this so all pupils can access all areas of the curriculum.
- Identifying and addressing barriers to participation in school initiated activities, on and off-site, to which disabled pupils have limited access. This is revisited regularly to ensure all pupils are able to access all activities we offer.
- Auditing our staff recruitment and retentions criteria in order to identify barriers.
- Supporting poster campaigns to develop positive attitudes towards disabled people.

Access to the building

Stockport Academy's aim is to be accessible to all; students, parents/carers and agencies working with pupils in the Academy. The building is DDA compliant - having been built in 2008 and all the school's signage accommodates visually impaired students and guests by using braille.

There is ramp access for parents / carers, pupils and external agencies who have a physical disability and wheelchairs are available for those finding moving around the Academy challenging due to a disability or injury. There is also a lift that enables any visitors, staff or pupils with a disability or injury to access all parts of the building at any time. Pupils needing to use the lift are issued with a pass and allowances are made for them, to leave lessons a couple of minutes before the bell to enable them to travel safely to their next lesson.

K. Phillips (SENCo)

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