

Adopted by Resources Committee - May 2012

Due for Review - May 2015

Garden Fields JMI School, Townsend Drive, St. Albans, Herts. AL3 5RL.



ACCESSIBILITY STRATEGY FOR PUPILS WITH DISABILITIES STATEMENT

The definition of 'disability' under the Equality Act 2010:

In the Act, a person has a disability if:

- they have a physical or mental impairment
- the impairment has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on their ability to perform normal day-to-day activities

For the purposes of the Act, these words have the following meanings:

- 'substantial' means more than minor or trivial
- 'long-term' means that the effect of the impairment has lasted or is likely to last for at least twelve months (there are special rules covering recurring or fluctuating conditions)
- 'normal day-to-day activities' include everyday things like eating, washing, walking and going shopping

At Garden Fields all staff, teaching and non-teaching, are committed to providing the best possible education for each child within our care, irrespective of social background, culture, race, gender, differences in ability or disabilities. We ensure that each child has access to a number of areas of learning so that he/she is able to develop the knowledge, understanding, skills and attitudes necessary for their self-fulfilment and development as active and responsible citizens. To that end we aim to be as inclusive as is practical to all.

Clearly, however, the multi-level site at Garden Fields can provide access problems for those with physical disabilities. The Hertfordshire County Council states: "*Pupils with a disability will be given the opportunity of access to the school of parental choice, unless **reasonable** and **necessary** adjustments are not possible.*" Financial responsibility for improvements to school premises lies with the school for works costing less than £500 [according to DfES guidance] and with the LEA if over £500.

Garden Fields' On-Going Strategy:

- *Working closely with external agencies to benefit specific pupils*
- *Good communication amongst ALL staff e.g. class medical lists*
- *Constant review of practices e.g. storage of inhalers / epipens / communication system*
- *Continue practice of early identification of need through nursery visits and induction*
- *Monitor and review provision in classrooms, play areas and shared spaces around the school site*
- *Develop use of ICT to facilitate learning for children with specific learning difficulties*
- *Emergency First Aid Training for all staff – updated every 3 years*
- *Epipen and inhaler training for all staff – updated every 3 years*
- *Ensuring at least 2 staff are fully trained in Paediatric Care*

This Statement originally agreed by Staff and Governors: September 2003

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