

The Milton Keynes Academy

Disability Statement for Students

1. INTRODUCTION

The Academy recognises its responsibilities under the Disability Discrimination Act in the provision of access to education for disabled students.

The Academy acknowledges its duty not to discriminate, without justification, against disabled students or prospective students, in all aspects of Academy life. This policy operates in conjunction with the Academy's Special Educational Needs Policy.

2. DEFINITIONS

A person is recognised as having a disability if he or she has a physical or mental impairment that has a substantial and long term adverse effect on his or her ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities.

The staff of the Academy have two duties to disabled students:

- not to treat disabled students less favourably and
- to take reasonable steps to avoid putting disabled students at a substantial disadvantage

3. ACCESSIBILITY FOR STUDENTS

An accessibility plan will be developed to improve access to education at the Academy for disabled students in the following areas:

- improved access to the curriculum
- physical improvements to increase access to education
- improvements in the provision of information in a range of formats for disabled students

Existing or prospective parents, guardians or carers who are not satisfied with the provisions made by the Academy may complain to the Chair of Governors. An appeal against the decision of the Chair may be made to the SEN and Disability Tribunal under the terms of the Disability Discrimination Act 1995.

4. DISABILITY EQUALITY PLAN

Upon opening the Academy will develop a plan setting out specifically how it will work to promote disability equality. It is the process of developing this plan that will determine our Academy objectives and priorities and what actions need to be taken. Disabled staff and students will be involved in the creation of this Disability Equality Plan.

The plan will:

- Promote equality of opportunity between disabled persons and other persons
- Ensure no unlawful discrimination or harassment related to disabilities
- Promote positive attitudes to disability
- Encourage participation by disabled people
- Take steps to take account of disabled people's disabilities
- Identify other actions as required

The plan will be reviewed and refreshed 3 years after its inception.

5. POLICY OWNERSHIP, MONITORING AND REVIEW

The responsibility for ensuring that the Academy adheres to this policy and that this policy is periodically reviewed rests with: Principal of the Milton Keynes Academy.