



# Arrangements for the Admission of Students with Disabilities Policy

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## 1. Definition of disability

The Disability Discrimination Act 1995 defines a disabled person as one who has a physical or mental impairment which has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on a persons' ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities. Most children with Special Needs will not be disabled within the meaning of the Act.

## 2. Admissions

The admission of students with disabilities is considered in the first instance in the same way as non-disabled students, and this is outlined in our admissions policy. Further considerations are made in the light of need and accessibility.

## 3. Culture and diversity

Armthorpe Academy 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 under the Equality Act 2010. Students should be provided with the opportunity to experience, understand and value diversity. We ensure that classroom and extra-curricular activities encourage the participation of all students, including those categorised as having Special Educational Needs.

Staff organise human and physical resources within the school to increase access to learning and participation by all students.

## 4. Inclusion strategies

We aim to include all students, including those with disabilities, in the full life of the school. Our strategies to do this will include:

- Having high expectations of all students.
- Finding ways in which all students can access all subjects including sport and music.
- Planning out-of-school activities including all school trips and excursions so that students with disabilities can participate.
- Setting admissions policy and criteria which does not discriminate against students with disabilities or treat them unfairly.
- Devising teaching strategies which will remove barriers to learning for students with disabilities.
- Planning the physical environment of the school to cater for the needs of students with disabilities wherever possible.
- Raising awareness of disability amongst school staff (teaching and non-teaching) through a programme of training.

## 5. Access to the school site, buildings and classrooms

Existing facilities provided to assist access to the school by students with disabilities are:

- Wheelchair access at all entrances and sections of the school.
- Lift in blocks with multiple floors.
- Carpeted classrooms to aid hearing impaired students learning.
- A Disabled Toilet is offered close to reception.
- Disabled parking is available at the main entrance.

## **6. Admissions of Students with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)**

When a student with an EHCP applies to attend the school, this will be done through the SEND team at the local authority who will then issue a consultation to the school. The school will then have 15 days to complete and return the consultation to the local authority; this will be done in discussion with the previous setting and family wherever possible.

If Armthorpe Academy is then named within Section I of the EHCP, the student will be admitted to the school in line with the admissions process.