



Putting young people first

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# **WHEELS VOCATIONAL & LIFE SKILLS CENTRE**

## **Disability Equality Duty and Fair Access Policy**

**Adopted September 2013**

**Date of Last Review: September 2025**

**Next Review: October 2026**

Company Registration No. 06608327

Registered Charity No. 1157795

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### **The Disability Equality Duty**

Wheels VLS Centre, in all that it does, has a duty to have due regard to:

- Promote equality of opportunity between disabled persons or other persons
- Eliminate discrimination that is unlawful under the Act
- Eliminate harassment of disabled persons that is related to their disabilities
- Promote positive attitudes towards disabled persons
- Encourage participation by disabled persons in public life
- Take steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities, even where this involves treating disabled persons more favourably than other persons

### **This is the Disability Equality Duty**

#### **1. Wheels VLS Centre's Commitment to Disability Equality**

The Centre's DEP has been developed to help us achieve a number of key priorities:

- To meet the needs of the Disability Equality Duty (DED) in clearly setting out our plans to promote equality of opportunity for disabled people.
- Taking the needs and views of disabled people into consideration in the creation of this scheme and when reviewing or developing new policies.
- Making reasonable adjustments (as part of our planning duties) to ensure all our facilities and information services are accessible to alleviate the pupil of any disadvantage.
- Monitor and improve the way in which the Centre enables disabled people to play a part in all aspects of Centre life.
- Adopt the social model of disability in relation to identifying and removing disability barriers which are in our control such as examining our policies, procedures and practices and working out short, medium and long-term strategies to ensure that we actively include disabled people.

#### **2. Leadership Management and Governance**

The Centre's Leadership Team has a clear ethos that reflects the Centre's commitment to equality of opportunity and inclusion. The Centre promotes a proactive approach to valuing each individual member of the learning community and respecting diversity.

#### **3. DEP Planning and Review**

In formulating the DEP, a range of members of Wheels VLS community were approached for input. A review of the DEP will include students, parents/carers, home school and the Centre's community. Monitoring will be carried out by the Senior Leadership with

assistance from students. Curriculum developments and assessment are monitored within the context of the social model of disability and the way these affect Wheels VLS Centre and accreditation routes followed.

This DEP is a working document that will continue to evolve in order that it can continuously reflect our strategic plans and the development of the Centre. The ethos of the DEP is reflected in all our policy documents.

#### **4. Fair Access and Assessment**

All students have Home School Data that reflects their current needs and monitored regularly, together with Interactive Learning Resources and Life Skill Checks.

Where students require specific Access Arrangements to comply with the SEND Code of Practice and Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ) these are applied.

The Centre liaises with the Home School to ensure we meet the individual needs of all our learners to remove barriers to learning and ensure fair access and assessment.

#### **Please Note**

This document must be read in conjunction with all other Centre Policies but with special regard to the Centre's Equality and Diversity Policy, Assessment Policy and the Internal Moderation and Appeals Policy.