DISABILITY POLICY

For the purposes of this policy 'School' means Magic Tree Nursery, Belmont Grosvenor School, Before/After School care and BGS Holiday Club.

This policy should be read in association with other related school policies and documents including:-

The Disability Equality Scheme and Accessibility Plan
The Learning Support and Special Educational Needs/ Disability Policy
The Anti-Bullying Policy
Administration of Medicines
The Equal Opportunities Policy
Admissions Policy

Definition of disability taken from, 'The Equality Act 2010'.

A person (P) has a disability if:

a) P has a physical or mental impairment, and
b) (b) the impairment has a substantial and long term (period of 12 months or longer) adverse effect on the P's ability to carry out normal day to day activities.

It is also worth noting that there is some overlap with the definition of Special Educational Needs in the Children and Families Act 2014 (which includes pupils with significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of children of his/her age or a disability which means that the pupil cannot make full use of the general educational facilities provided for pupils of their age in mainstream state schools) but not all pupils are disabled by their SEN and vice versa.

Policy Plans

Belmont Grosvenor School complies with The Disability Act 1995(DDA), and subsequently the Equality Act 2010.

The school supports disability equality and the elimination of discrimination. We have an Accessibility Plan which is a fluid and working document and is reviewed during the summer term each year.

The Reasonable Adjustments' Duty 2012

From 1st September 2012 The Reasonable Adjustments Duty has included a duty to provide auxiliary aids and services for disabled pupils. The school includes consideration of these in the Accessibility Plan. Reasonable adjustments are also noted with the record for children who receive learning support on their Pupil Passport or if necessary, Individual Health Care Plan.

The Local Offer

The Local Offer provides information on the services children, young people and their families can expect from a range of local agencies, including education, health and social care.

You can find more information about provision in North Yorkshire on their website at North Yorkshire – local offer.

Admissions for Pupils with a disability

The school's admission policy applies to all prospective pupils. We welcome all children who can make the most of the opportunities that we offer. Treating every child as an individual is important to us and we welcome pupils with physical disabilities provided that, with consideration of our Accessibility Plan, our environment is suitable.

We advise parents of children with disabilities to discuss their child's requirements with us before he or she comes

for an assessment/taster session so that we can make provision. In assessing any pupil or prospective pupil we may take advice and request reports and assessments.

As with any pupil, admission may not be possible if having taken reasonable adjustments into consideration, the school felt unable to meet the needs of the child.

Pupils with a disability may require special consideration. If appropriate, adjustments will need to be put in place. We will discuss thoroughly with parents and their medical advisers, the adjustments that can reasonably be made for their child once they have accepted the offer of a place and before he/she becomes a pupil at the school. We recognise that some pupils with a disability may also require consideration by our SENCO. We would normally discuss this with parents before their child enters the school. Our Special Educational Needs/Disability Policy gives further information outlining arrangements for children with specific needs and is available on the website or from school.

Physical Access

Parents and visitors should be aware that the school site covers a wide area with many old buildings of more than one storey and without lifts. The school requires pupils to move around the site, necessitating the use of steps or stairs in buildings to access classrooms. The School is addressing these issues as part of the School Improvement Plan but some substantial improvements may not be achieved by reasonable adjustments.
The Accessibility Plan is ongoing and Belmont Grosvenor School also seeks to improve physical access within the constraints of local planning permission and the budget.

Welfare

Belmont Grosvenor School considers discrimination (including bullying, non-integration, health, racial, emotional or physical) to be unacceptable with regard to any pupil.

We would expect that all policies including Bullying, Racial Equality, and Equal Opportunity, Inclusion and PSHE, would apply to all pupils in the school.