

# HAVEN HIGH TECHNOLOGY COLLEGE

## Disability Equality Plan

### ***3-year period covered by the plan : 2007 - 2010***

#### **Introduction**

- The SEN and Disability Act 2001 extended the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 (DDA) to cover education. Since September 2002, the Governing Body has had three key duties towards disabled staff and students, under Part 4 of the DDA:
  - not to treat disabled staff and students less favourably for a reason related to their disability;
  - to make reasonable adjustments for disabled staff and students, so that they are not at a substantial disadvantage;
  - to plan to increase access to education for disabled students.
- This plan sets out the proposals of the Governing Body of the college to increase access to education for disabled students in the three areas required by the planning duties in the DDA:
  - increasing the extent to which disabled students can participate in the college curriculum;
  - improving the environment of the college to increase the extent to which disabled students can take advantage of education and associated services;
  - improving the delivery to disabled students of information which is provided in writing for students who are not disabled.

#### **Definition of disability:**

The Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) defines a disabled person as someone who has ' a physical or mental impairment which has a substantial and long term adverse effect on his or her ability to carry out normal day to day activities.'

*(Physical or mental impairment includes sensory impairments and also hidden impairments such as :*

*Dyslexia, Autism, Speech & Language impairments, ADHD)*

#### **Vision and Values:**

- Haven High Technology College aims to ensure equality of opportunity for all its students and staff and it follows that disabled students or prospective students, are not treated less favourably than other students or prospective students, for reasons relating to their disability.
- Please read this in conjunction with the college's Equal Opportunities and SEN policies.

## **Information from student data and school audit :**

The college currently has 44% of students on the special educational needs register. Of these 1% are disabled mainly through sight or hearing problems.

Carlton Road Primary School, our main feeder primary and our federated school has 47% of pupils on the SEN register, of these 1.5% are disabled, Haven High is supporting these pupils through the services of a shared SENCO and through easy access to agency support through Full Service Extended School provision.

## **Views of those consulted during the development of the plan:**

The views of all agencies, students, pupils and their parent/carers will be sought through the regular meetings held as part of the support given by the college.

## **The main priorities in the school's plan :**

### **Increasing the extent to which disabled pupils can participate in the college curriculum:**

- The college will endeavour to provide suitable access to a range of curriculum opportunities.
- Where necessary, support will be given by the Special Educational Needs (SEN) department, led by the Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCO).
- All departments have a Teaching Assistant assigned to them.
- The college facilitates services from a range of agencies through full service extended school (FSES) provision, for all students and their families. This is also extended to other schools in the area.

### **Improving the physical environment of the school to increase the extent to which disabled pupils can take advantage of education and associated services:**

- Apart from one classroom, the college's classrooms are all on the ground floor. Any new build will be built with disabled students in mind, ensuring access for all students.
- There is a newly refurbished disabled toilet available for students and for the use of disabled people using extended college services
- There is a newly built disabled shower close to the PE facilities.
- Any new build will be built with regard to access for disabled people.

## **Improving the delivery to disabled pupils of information that is provided in writing for pupils who are not disabled:**

- Where necessary, all handouts, letters, timetables etc will be made available in suitable format for disabled students.

## **Making it happen**

- This plan will be reviewed annually
- This plan should be read in conjunction with other policies such as :
  - SEN policy
  - H&S ploicy