

Protocol for Ensuring Reasonable Adjustments to Educational Visits for Children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities



Hungerford School

Pride
Passion
Partnership
Professionalism
Positivity

At Hungerford we have an inclusive ethos and welcome all children regardless of need. We are thorough and meticulous in ensuring that we uphold our duty within the Equality Act to ensure that we make any reasonable adjustments necessary to ensure that all children can access the curriculum and in particular curriculum enrichment such as educational visits.

The Equalities Act 2010

The Equality Act requires schools to ensure that pupils are not treated less favourable due to one of the following protected characteristics:

- age
- disability
- gender reassignment
- marriage and civil partnership
- pregnancy and maternity
- race
- religion or belief
- sex
- sexual orientation

For the majority of the protected characteristics, the law is there to ensure that people are treated equally – not more or less favourably. However, with regard to disability, the law is slightly different. It is **lawful** for people to be treated more favourably due to disability. (Equity) Definition of equity here

Educational Visits at Hungerford

As an inclusive school, we ensure that our school trips and educational visits are accessible to the whole class, ensuring a “no child left behind” approach. This means that we always make the reasonable adjustments needed for everyone to attend, even if it means that some trips are not achievable.

As a school with a high level of SEMH needs (which is included under our disability duty) this means that educational visits cannot be used as a reward and children cannot be prevented attending as a sanction.

This may mean that trip venues, transport and staffing may need careful consideration and that individual risk assessments may need to be put in place for some children. It may be necessary to make other adjustments such as running the visit in smaller groups. School staff can ask parents to come along as this may be helpful. But, we must not state that the child cannot attend if the parent is unavailable (this would be disadvantaging the child due to their disability).

Safety

The only time that a class team may say that a child cannot attend a school trip is if their behaviour is so dysregulated on the day of the trip that it would be a risk to the safety of themselves or others. This decision can only be taken after discussion with the Headteacher or Deputy Headteacher.

Children who refuse to attend an educational visit

For some children, educational visits may cause anxiety and they may refuse to take part in educational visits. In this case, the school should take steps to support the individual (such as visuals or social stories and asking the parent to support if possible) but the child should not be forced to take part. This should be discussed with the Headteacher or Deputy Headteacher.

If this is the case, the class teacher will then make sure that any learning is provided for in a different way.