

## Accessibility Statement – Totnes European School

### Policy for Students with Disabilities or Special Educational Needs.

The Equality Act 2010 defines what are called ‘protected characteristics’ i.e. grounds upon which discrimination is unlawful. One of these protected characteristics is disability. Under the Equality Act 2010 a person is classified as disabled if they have a physical or mental impairment which has a substantial and long-term effect on their ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities. Day-to-day activities include things such as using a telephone, reading a book or using public transport.

Totnes European School will not discriminate against a student.

- In the way we provide education for the student.
- In the way we give the student access to a benefit, facility or service.
- By not providing education for the student.
- By not affording the student access to any benefit, facility or service.
- By excluding the student.
- By subjecting them to any other detriment.

Totnes European School is committed to providing equal opportunity to all students. Totnes European School recognises and that all students are individual, with different wishes and requirements. Totnes European School guarantees to treat all students consistently and equally. Totnes European School recognise that we have a duty to make adjustments within reason, taking into account individual needs to ensure disabled students are not discriminated against.

### POLICY

- Totnes European School requires all students to declare any disabilities and educational needs at application stage.
- Declaration at the application stage will allow the school to make provision for the student in whichever way is deemed possible and practicable. This will allow time for Totnes European School to make any adjustments necessary, or to propose alternative arrangements if possible.
- If a disability or special need is not declared at the time of application but is identified after arrival at school, this could result in Totnes European School not being able to provide the expected services for the student.

#### Wheelchair users

Unfortunately, the premises that the school occupies makes this provision very limited. Totnes European School rents the premises and cannot make any structural alterations to the building (such as lifts or ramps). The only means of access to the school is via a staircase. Classrooms, student room and self-study facilities and toilets are on one level on the first floor.

#### Visually impaired students

We would be happy to accept students who are visually impaired but recognise that this would present a challenge, depending on the severity of the disability. Our classrooms and student areas have good natural lighting and artificial lighting is bright.

#### Hearing impaired students

We would be happy to accept students who are hearing impaired, although recognise that this would present a challenge, depending on the severity of the disability. We will monitor background noise, such as TVs and music in student areas is limited.

#### Students with other disabilities/ SEN's

We can accept students with a variety of disabilities/ SEN's, e.g. dyslexia. We request that students disclose any disability/ SEN's they feel will affect their study experience.

TES WILL ENDEAVOUR TO ACCOMMODATE ALL STUDENTS WHEREVER POSSIBLE.

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