



6. Activities outside the classroom including school trips

6.1 How do you ensure that all children can be included in out of school activities and trips?

At The Castle School we believe that activities outside the classroom are essential in helping our young people develop both their academic and social, emotional and behavioural skills. To ensure that everyone can take part in activities safely the school uses the EVOLVE Risk Assessment system that has been adopted by West Berkshire Local Authority. Risk assessments are used to ensure that we can support every pupil in order to make sure that they get the most from each trip and remain safe at the same time.

All staff are aware of the Equalities Act and we are passionate that all young people will experience trips and visits regardless of their abilities. We will differentiate activities as we would with any learning activity to ensure that everyone can have access and be included.

Where needed we will use transport that is adapted for our young people who cannot travel in vehicle seats. If we plan a big school trip then we will try and organise an accessible coach so that all our pupils can sit together rather than be separated because of their ability.

We believe that we can overcome any barrier in relation to ability and access and will always endeavour to do so for the benefit of our children.

6.2 How do you involve parents / carers in planning the support required for their child to access activities and trips?

When planning trips we will try and involve parents as much as possible to ensure that the young person gets the most out of the experience. This may involve some or all of the following:

- Communication of information through letters and home-school diaries
- Parent briefing evenings
- Home visits
- Family Support Worker
- Subsidising families whose children qualify for Free School Meals or are Looked After
- Giving notice in advance for parents so that costs can be spread over time

We would also seek advice from parents as they may be invaluable when planning a trip with their child in mind.