

# Play Day Guidance

## How can disabled children and young people be included?



**By considering how Play Day events can be made accessible for disabled children and young people, we also:**

- Identify good practice to ensure everyone can have a brilliant time.
- Ensure that, like health and safety matters, inclusive practice is a shared responsibility.
- Work strategically and in partnership with others.
- Are guided by the requirements of the Disability Equality Duty.
- Reach out to parents/carers and build links with the wider community.
- Take an organisation-wide approach to tackling disability related discrimination.

**Ensure practical steps are taken to promote real equality of opportunity:**

- Be pro-active by anticipating who might participate - don't forget that as well as children and young people, there may be disabled playworkers and other disabled adults/parents participating in the event.
- Recognise that that children and adults are disabled not by their impairments but by the attitudes, actions and omissions of society in failing to include them in their natural social environment.
- Offer stewards, first aiders, activity leaders, playworkers, other staff and volunteers Disability Equality training that includes an understanding of the social model of disability.
- Actively involve disabled children and young people in the planning, design, delivery and evaluation of Play Day events.
- Consider how some policies and procedures might have a negative impact on disabled participants.

- Be prepared to make policy changes to accommodate individual requirements e.g. queuing systems may be challenging for some children; ASK disabled and non-disabled children and young people what they would consider to be a fair priority system.

### **Develop effective and inclusive methods of communication:**

- Ensure publicity and activity information is made available in accessible formats e.g. large print; pictorial; positive images of ALL children; British Sign Language (BSL) and key local languages.
- Offer hints and tips for participating organisations on dealing with any awkward questions and inappropriate responses (e.g. mummy why is that lady in a chair with wheels? / Stop staring/don't be rude).

### **Be play led:**

- Consider the play experience on offer – then ASK disabled children and young people, with specific sensory or physical or learning impairments, what they might need to participate in that same play experience?
- Be prepared to take extra reasonable steps to promote equality of opportunity.
- Identify and manage the risks but do NOT be risk averse.
- Check out any physical access to different parts of the event e.g. transport, parking, priority areas, surface terrain, spaces and distances between activity areas, shelters from inclement weather, shaded areas for brilliant weather, access for push-chairs /wheel chairs or support frames, seating areas with spaces for wheel chair users, toilets, accessible toilets and accessible changing areas for adults (not just babies).
- Take a realistic 'can do' attitude.
- Above all, make sure you have a committed leader and a motivated team who all believe in the rights of ALL children and young people to access the Play Day experience and to be actively involved in all aspects of its development.

## **KIDS' resources Play Day organisers may find useful:**

### **KIDS PIP Briefings**

- I have a right to play out too!
- All of Us – The Framework for Quality Inclusion
- Aiming Higher for Inclusive Play
- Equalities and inclusion in play and childcare

### **The PIP Guidelines Series:**

- Inclusion by Design - a guide to creating accessible play and childcare environments
- Pick and Mix - a selection of inclusive games and activities
- It doesn't just happen - inclusive management for inclusive play and childcare

### **KIDS DVD**

- Kids just gotta have fun! - DVD of KIDS Hayward Inclusive Adventure playground.

### **KIDS' Useful Resources**

- Choosing our words – the power of language
- Legislation, policy and guidance relating to inclusive play and childcare
- Useful publications and resources on inclusive play

**KIDS' PIP Briefings and Useful Resources can be downloaded free of charge, and publications & resources can be ordered from the KIDS website:**

**[www.kids.org.uk/publications](http://www.kids.org.uk/publications)**

## Other resources Play Day organisers may find useful:

### **Inclusive Play - CPIS Fact Sheet**

Available to download from: [www.ncb.org.uk](http://www.ncb.org.uk) - follow links to resources then factsheets.

### **Everybody Here? Play and Leisure for Disabled Children and Young People**

Available to download from: [www.cafamily.org.uk/leisure.pdf](http://www.cafamily.org.uk/leisure.pdf)

### **Let's Play Together: Play and Inclusion**

### **I Want To Play Too**

Both available to download from: [www.barnardos.org.uk/resources](http://www.barnardos.org.uk/resources)

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