

Physical Impairment and Medical Support Team

**INCLUDING DISABLED PUPILS IN TRIPS AND
VISITS OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL
February 2011**



Trips and Safeguarding disabled children and children with medical needs

This document informed by

Safeguarding Disabled Children, a Guidance Document:
<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/everychildmatters/download/?id=6195>

Working Together to Safeguard Children
<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/everychildmatters/safeguardingandsocialcare/safeguardingchildren/workingtogether/workingtogethertosafeguardchildren>

'Implementing the Disability Discrimination Act in Schools and Early Years Settings' (2006): <http://www.teachernet.gov.uk/wholeschool/sen/>

What equality law means to you as an education provider (EHRC 2010):
http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/uploaded_files/EqualityAct/schools_nsg_3.doc

Safeguarding disabled children's welfare is everybody's responsibility, and given that we know that disabled children are more vulnerable to abuse than non-disabled children, awareness amongst professionals about safeguarding disabled children and what constitutes best practice, is essential

When organizing trips, outings and residentials you actively promote good practice in safeguarding disabled children by:

- Including them with their peers and reducing isolation
- Ensuring that they are consulted
- Making sure you know what their views are about things that affect them.
- Building their self esteem
- Making sure that there is always more than one trusted and trustworthy adult who is able to listen to them and respond to their wishes.
- Ensuring that you have followed best practice in recruiting any adult, including volunteers, who have contact with children.
- Finding reliable ways to elicit their views with a minimum of adult mediation

This guidance should be read in conjunction with the Outdoor Education and External Visits guidance found at <http://www.six.somerset.gov.uk/sccoea/>

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1. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

The Law

SEN and Disability Act 2001
Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974
The Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999
Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 2002
Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 and associated regulations
Medicines Act 1968
The Education (School Premises) Regulations 1999
The Education (Independent Schools Standards) (England) Regulations 2003
National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding – Premises
Special Education Needs – Education Act 1996
Care Standards Act 2000

The SENDA (2001) states that it is unlawful for schools to discriminate against disabled pupils.

“Schools have legal responsibilities. They discriminate if:

- They treat a disabled pupil or prospective pupil less favourably than another for a reason related to their disability and without justification;
- They fail, without justification, to take reasonable steps to avoid placing disabled pupils at a substantial disadvantage. This duty is often known as the “reasonable adjustments” duty.

(Implementing the Disability Discrimination Act in schools and early years settings gives some examples of reasonable adjustments that other schools have made – DfES Publications 0160-2006DOC-EN)

Venues have legal responsibilities as well:

- Under the Disability Discrimination Act “all **services** whether paid for or free of charge, and all facilities from parks to shops, must be accessible to disabled people”.
- Since 1999 service providers have to make “reasonable adjustments” for disabled people, such as providing extra help or making changes to the way they provide their services.
- Since 2004 service providers have had to make “reasonable adjustments” to their **premises** to provide physical access to disabled people. Although many old buildings cannot be made accessible, all service providers can be expected to ensure that many of their facilities are available to disabled people, e.g. museum, gardens, lower floor.

Inclusive practice will involve planning well in advance.

The financial responsibility for trips lies within the school budget. An element of funding is included in School Action Plus 'PI and Medical' tariffs and schools will arrange and pay for support required to enable all pupils to access school trips. The Children's and Young Peoples Directorate does not retain any budget for this purpose and cannot therefore provide any financial assistance for schools.

2. VENUES

- EEC (European Education Consultants) Risk Assessment system (most Somerset schools subscribe to the system) lists some accessible features of venues.
- The Physical Impairment and Medical Support Team have compiled a database on accessibility of some venues in the area. It is arranged by subject area so that if you always go to a particular inaccessible venue to study, for example, the Tudors, you can see which venues are more accessible in the area. This can be found in Appendix D.
- A pre visit by staff who understand the additional needs of the disabled pupil will help plan trips with confidence. In some cases this will be essential. Many schools have found relying on preparatory phone calls has resulted in disappointment!
- There is a checklist in appendix A that can be used to support your planning.

2. INVOLVING PARENTS /CARERS AND PUPILS

- Parents/carers and pupils should be consulted at the planning stage.
- If there are activities that cannot be made accessible through reasonable adjustments then alternative activities should be discussed and agreed with parents/carers and pupils.
- If the trip involves an extended day or residential provision, then parents should be given opportunities to discuss all the pupil's needs.



3. ACCESSING ACTIVITIES

- Can the pupil access all the arranged activities?
- If not is there justification, which is 'material and substantial' (SENDA 2001)?
- This will mean both physical access e.g. to the beach, and the activity e.g. abseiling. Check with the organisers and ask what facilities are available for disabled pupils (describe mobility difficulties or impairment of pupil).
- When alternative activities are being considered for disabled pupils, consider groups of pupils who would enjoy alternative choices.
- When carrying out Risk Assessments for hazardous activities, disabled pupils are likely to require an individual risk assessment. Such risk assessments should be carried out within the secure area of EEC (Medical or SEN areas). For further advice please ask for either Jon Saunders or Sam Martin on 01823 355089. Your trained EVC (Educational Visits Co-coordinator) should ensure that approvals are submitted for all category B visits. Further information can be found on <http://www.six.somerset.gov.uk/sccoea/>
- There is a checklist in appendix A that can be used to support your planning.

4. TOILETS

- Is the toilet suitable for the needs of the pupil (large enough, have a changing bed if needed)?
- Discuss toileting with the pupil and his/her parents a long time before the trip.
- Accessible toilets do not usually include hoists, and alternative toileting arrangements may need to be made, e.g. using a bottle.
- You may need to get a RADAR key before you depart ([www.radar](http://www.radar.org.uk))
- There is a checklist in appendix A that can be used to support your planning.



5. STAFF AND EQUIPMENT

It is important that disabled pupils are seen as the responsibility of the trip organiser / school staff and are not seen as the sole responsibility of the staff working with the disabled pupil, e.g. support assistant.

- Extra help may be needed to cover evening/overnight support for some disabled pupils, particularly where a large amount of personal care is involved.
- Has the student extra equipment to be carried?
- Are extra personnel available to carry this?
- Extra staff may need to be recruited for the event.
- Is the pupil a wheelchair user?
- Only staff who have received appropriate training should be involved in any aspect of moving and handling the pupil or their equipment. Additional personnel should have appropriate knowledge and understanding of the pupil's individual needs, appropriate training and CRB checks.
- There is a checklist in appendix A that can be used to support your planning.

PARENTS SHOULD NOT BE CONSIDERED AS APPROPRIATE ADDITIONAL SUPPORT AS AN OPTION IN THE FIRST INSTANCE.

PARENTS WHO ARE INVOLVED IN SUPPORTING TRIPS SHOULD BE EXPECTED TO OFFER ONLY THE SAME RANGE AND LEVEL OF SUPPORT AS ANY OTHER PARENT VOLUNTEER.

PARENTS SUPPORT ON TRIPS SHOULD BE PLANNED CAREFULLY SO AS NOT TO REDUCE THE INCREASED INDEPENDENCE, CHALLENGE, CHOICE AND CONTROL THAT OTHER CHILDREN WILL BE EXPERIENCING, FOR THE DISABLED CHILD.

Additional Resources may be required to enable the pupil to be included in the trip.

- Appendix B contains a checklist to support your planning.

6. PROTOCOLS

Protocols established for meeting the pupil's personal needs should be reconsidered in the light of a new environment.

- Personal assistance (see Guidance for Personal Assistance on EIS)
- Medical care (where appropriate using forms in "Supporting pupils with medical needs" from EIS)
- Storage and administration of medication/oxygen/other equipment e.g. catheters
- Emergency arrangements (including fire evacuation). If the pupil concerned needs a Personal Emergency Evacuation Plan (PEEP) within school, then fire evacuation should be discussed with the venue prior to the visit (see guidance [EIS](#) and consult with the venue).

All of the above documentation can be found at:

<http://www.six.somerset.gov.uk/eis/content.asp?did=26386>

- Safe Moving and Handling
- Dysphasia

They should be temporarily amended in liaison with the pupil's parents, pupil (if appropriate) and regular assistants, and taken on the trip to inform all relevant personnel. The checklists in appendices a and b can be used to support your planning.

7. TRANSPORT

Wheelchair users will need accessible transport unless they are able to get onto a bus or into a member of staff's car in a safe and dignified manner.

It is always preferable for pupils to travel together in the same vehicle. With this in mind, an accessible minibus/taxi should facilitate travel for several pupils as opposed to just the disabled pupil.

Details of Community Transport are available from Somerset Direct 0845 3459166. They have a list of the phone numbers of Community Transport operators in all areas of Somerset.

If school staff are driving accessible vehicles they must be trained in the restraint of wheelchairs. Schools can access training through County Hall transport department , Fleet Manager (01823 358136)

Frances Keane 358133 (Minibus driver training)

Tina Durston CPC Training 355878. Free training in clamping wheelchairs safely etc.

If a disabled pupil can use a member of staff's car, check on the following:

- Have you discussed it with the pupil's parents?
- Has that member of staff got cover on his/her insurance that enables him/her to carry a pupil on school business? This often is an arrangement that does not cost.
- Does the pupil require a special seat belt: Does this require training to operate?
- How will the pupil get into the car? Does this manoeuvre involve the driver?
- Does the pupil need a booster seat? See legislation;
http://www.protectchildgb.org.uk/the_law.php
- Does the driver need to carry a separate wheelchair or walking aid in the vehicle?
- Does the driver or assistant need training in safe clamping of the wheel chair?
- Has the driver had Moving and Handling training?

There is a checklist in appendix A that can be used to support your planning.

8. ANNUAL REVIEWS

It is good practice to discuss forthcoming trips and visits at Annual Review to allow plenty of time for trip co-ordinators to make any changes necessary. Please refer to the Physical Impairment and Medical Support Team (PIMS Team) for further guidance.

9. CONTACTS

For additional help, up to date information and advice please contact the Physical and Medical Support Team (PMST) Advisory Teacher at the appropriate area base:

Mendip:
Priory Medical Centre
Glastonbury Road
Wells
BA5 1XJ (01749 678500)

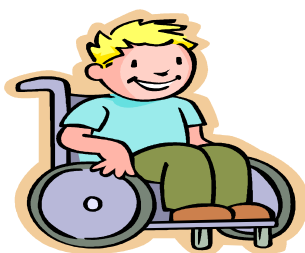
Sedgemoor
Chandos House
6 Castle Street
Bridgwater
TA6 3DB (01278-446445)

South Somerset:
Buckland House
Buckland Rd
Yeovil
BA21 5EA (01935-476130)

Taunton:
The Holway Centre
Byron Road
Taunton
TA1 2JB (01823-334475)

For further Information:

1. DRC Code of Practice for Schools contact: Disability Rights Commission 08457 622633 www.drc-gb.org
2. Somerset Education and Integrated Services Website (EIS) <http://www.six.somerset.gov.uk/eis/>
3. Implementing the Disability Discrimination Act in schools and early years settings
Department for Education Publications 0160-2006DOC-EN
Phone 0845 6022260 www.teachernet.gov.uk



Examples of Good Practice

1. A pupil with complex physical needs was taken to the SS Great Britain with his class. The venue was fully accessible to wheelchair users, but the toilet had no space for using a hoist. The school took a mobile hoist in the bus and had arranged a convenient place in the venue to transfer him onto a mat and change his pad.
2. On a visit to Montacute House a school included a pupil who is a wheelchair user. The ground floor of the house is accessible, along with the garden. The class all looked at the ground floor together. Then they split into 2 groups. both of which had

a video camera. One group (including the wheelchair user) explored the garden and found out information, the other group explored the upper floor of the house. The 2 groups then presented information to each other when they returned to school.

3. On a Geography field trip a wheelchair user and a group of pupils had a minibus available to them. They started with the whole class at the source of the river and then travelled by bus and met the rest of the class further down the river. The group that walked downstream took photos and a video to show to the other group when they got back to school. The minibus group did other work related to the learning outcomes of the fieldtrip and then fed back their results to the rest of the group.
4. On a visit to a beach on the South Coast, the class were splitting into 2 groups and attending a lecture in the visitor centre and then going onto the beach to look for fossils. The wheelchair user was unable to access the beach. He attended the lecture twice, but for the second time he went up to the front and acted as a "helper". His classmates also brought him examples of rocks and fossils that they had found so that he could explore them on his tray.

CHECKLIST TO SUPPORT YOUR TRIP PLANNING

	DETAILS	CHECKED & DATE
Venue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is the venue accessible for pupils/pupil's specific needs (e.g. mobility, personal care requirements, medical needs). • Can reasonable adjustments be made to ensure trip inclusive or do you need to find a different venue? 	
Involving Parents and Accessing Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consult parents / pupil about trip (e.g. medical care plans, personal assistance and any activities that need adaptations). • Check that the teacher responsible for the trip has a good understanding of the pupils needs and plans activities appropriately. • Is additional time needed for pupils personal needs? 	
Toilet arrangements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is the location of accessible toilet appropriate? • Is the "accessible toilet" appropriate for specific needs of pupil? • Can pupil transfer to toilet independently or is hoist needed? • Is additional moving and handling risk assessment required? • Is RADAR key required? 	
Personnel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are additional staff required? • What training do staff require? (medical/moving and handling/hoist/CRB etc 	
Protocols	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reconsider any protocols already in use in the light of the venue that visiting • Involve parents in this if necessary 	
Mode of transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can the pupil get on and off coach safely? • Is a wheelchair accessible vehicle required? • Will the vehicle be needed during the course of the visit? • For wheelchair users are they going to use power or manual chair? 	

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES SPECIFIC TO PUPIL

EQUIPMENT THAT MAY BE REQUIRED	EQUIPMENT THAT YOUR PUPIL REQUIRES
<p>MOBILITY</p> <p>Wheelchair (power or manual) Walking frame Transferring equipment Hoist Sticks</p>	
<p>PERSONAL CARE</p> <p>Toilet aids Eating equipment Drinking Equipment Change of Clothes Gloves Wet wipes Towel</p>	
<p>MEDICATION</p> <p>Include any emergency medication (e.g. rectal valium, epipen, inhalers) Regular medication</p>	
<p>Technology/Communication</p> <p>Talking Book Laptop Communication aid Camera</p>	
<p>HEALTH & SAFETY</p> <p>Mobile phone Medical Care Plans Risk assessments</p>	

SAMPLE TRIPS AND VISITS POLICY

Organisation of educational visits.

Principles:

1. The school is committed to incorporating educational visits into its schemes of work, providing that they will enhance pupils' relevant understanding and experiences and that their inclusion is practicable, considering the constraints of staffing, cost and time.
2. All staff have the option to take part in visits. If for any reason they do not wish to participate, they are expected to cover for other colleagues and supervise remaining groups of pupils.
3. Educational visits are an entitlement of all pupils and should be organised accordingly, with particular consideration being given, especially when selecting venues and organising transport, to any pupils who have some sensory or physical impairment. **Planning should be done with reference to the LA guidelines 'Including Disabled Pupils in trips and visits outside school'**
4. As specified in DFES guidelines a pupil whose social and /or emotional state is such that the Group Organiser in liaison, with the Leadership Team, is concerned for their safety, and that of others, could result in the pupil being withdrawn from the activity.
5. Just as all other elements in course programmes, Educational visits must have clear, relevant and achievable aims and objectives.
6. A major consideration in the organisation of any visit must be the safety of the participants, and in this, as in all other respects, both the LA guidelines and the School policy must be complied with. The minimum adult-to-pupil ratio is dependent on the nature of the visit and the age of the pupils - staff must therefore check that they comply with all School and LA requirements and regulations. The organiser must be satisfied that the venue is a suitable one, with all that this entails, and, where applicable, that any officials from the venue who will be involved in the visit, are qualified and dependable.

Procedure for organising a visit.:

A risk assessment must be completed in all activities.

Prior to any detailed organisation, permission for the visit must be obtained from the Headteacher. and **Appendix A, 'Checklist to support your trip planning', completed.**

Where reasonable adjustments or alternative activities will be required for a disabled pupil who is attending the trip, these should now be identified. It is a good idea to involve parents of disabled children at this stage.

Residential Visits. When an activity involves a period of more than 24 hours, an overnight stay or a journey by sea or air, the Headteacher will seek the approval of the Governing Body and the Education Department before sanctioning the activity. Permission for the pupils to participate in whatever the visit involves must then be obtained in writing from their parents or guardians at the earliest opportunity.

In the case of any outdoor activity a member of staff should have made a preliminary visit to the venue - preferably at the same time of year as the planned visit. This preliminary visit is essential for safety reasons but also for reasons of sound educational planning. A RISK ASSESSMENT MUST BE COMPLETED ON ALL ACTIVITIES. **Where reasonable adjustments or alternative activities will be required for a disabled pupil who is attending the trip, these should now be identified. It is a good idea to involve parents of disabled children at this stage.**

The School Administrator must be approached to cost transport, accommodation and other activities that are to be part of the trip. A proposed trip cost will be agreed at this stage and be included in the Permission Form that is given to the Headteacher for consideration.

The place of any pupil who had been internally or externally excluded within the academic year, or before the trip is conducted, will be reviewed and the child could forgo their place. The trip organiser must discuss any proposed withdrawal of pupil involvement with the SENCO and/or headteacher prior to any communication with parents. The Headteacher of Deputy Head will inform the parents of the decision.

Day trips / Routine visits. .

The Headteacher will require a break down of all elements of the activity costing as shown on the Routine Visit Form.

The parents or guardians must be fully informed about the visit in a letter from the organising teacher (named) that should explain:

- its nature and purpose (to include aims and objectives);
- the outline of the programme/itinerary making reference to such issues as working near rivers or roads;
- how and when pupils will be supervised - making special reference to any work not directly supervised.
- Routine information relating to school uniform and eating arrangements.
- **Proposals for reasonable adjustments (for parents of disabled pupils)**

In accordance with current legislation, the letter should also contain a section on meeting the costs of the visit. (An example of a complete letter to parents/guardians can be found in the C directory on the staffroom computer). **A copy of any letter must be filed with the school secretary, who would normally prepare the final letter.**

Managing pupils who cannot afford the activity.

All pupils have the right to attend an activity that is conducted during the school day.

For residential activity, parents must pay food and accommodation costs. The School will pay other costs. (Transport, tuition fees, admission fees et al)

Information to be given to the school secretary.

When the organisational details of the visit have been confirmed, all relevant forms - most notably those concerned with insurance - must be completed, and all other requirements detailed in the School's policy document must be observed. All payments for the visits will be forwarded to the Finance Office, and individual records maintained by the members of staff involved in the collection.

Pertinent details of the visit will need to be given to all of those variously involved; to the participating pupils, to any accompanying teachers and any non-teacher supervisors, and, where applicable, to any officials who will receive and perhaps work with the School party. In addition to everyone being acquainted with the date, time, venue, programme details, nature and purpose(s) regarding the visit in question;

- the pupils will need to be made aware of its relation to and implications for their recent, current or impending learning, and will need to know what will be expected of them at the venue in terms of their work and behaviour;
- any accompanying teachers and any non-teacher supervisors will need to be carefully advised about their roles and responsibilities;
- any participating officials will need to know how their contributions are intended to enhance or to complement the pupils' work in School.

The organising teacher must also ensure that everyone involved is aware of any contingency plans for inclement weather or unforeseen circumstances, aware of the first-aid facilities, and aware of any emergency telephone numbers as described in the County Emergency Procedures documentation.

If transport by coach or minibus is to be involved, the organiser must be satisfied that the vehicle(s) and the operators comply with the statutory requirements, and with any other requirements laid down by the LA or the School.

Ensure that accessible transport is available for disabled children, including wheelchair users. If separate transport is required, ensure disabled children travel as part of a group with their peers.

Complete Appendix B: Additional resources for disabled pupils

All bookings and quotes must be made in writing and filed in the office with the trip details.

Filing information. The School Secretary must have the dates and times of all visits, details of the venue (address and contract numbers) and a list of all the pupils and teachers involved.

On any occasion when pupils will be away from the School, the catering staff should also be notified, preferably at least two weeks prior to the visit.

In all cases, the teachers from whose lessons or extra-curricular activities pupils will be absent, should be advised of the fact - use of the weekly newsletter and staff notice board should be suitable for this purpose.

Off-Site Activities Emergency Procedure.

After The Visit:

In general, work completed by the pupils either during or subsequent to an educational visit, should be displayed as and when appropriate, in a public area of the school. The teacher in charge should ensure that senior management are informed of the conduct of the pupils so that appropriate comments/praise can be made in assemblies.

A final settlement of finances must be agreed with the School Administration Officer. Invoices and receipts must be handed in and the final balance of the trip agreed. If necessary, arrangements must be made to transfer funds back to parents.

Staff that have covered lessons should be thanked in an appropriate way.

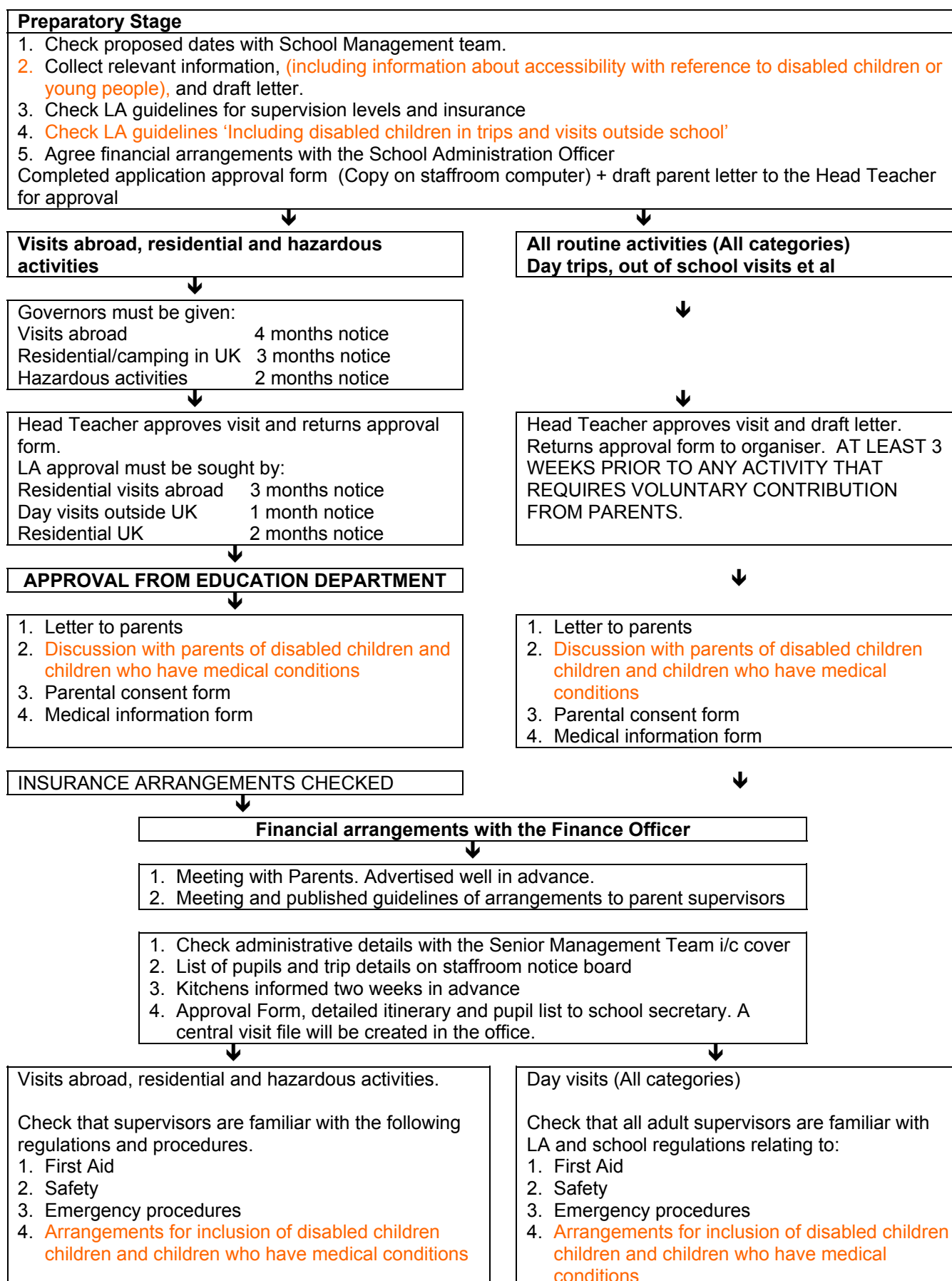
A report of the visit should be forwarded to the Headteacher for inclusion in the next parents' newsletter and governors' report.

Monitoring and Evaluation.

Monitoring of the organisational aspects of the visit will be carried out by the School Management Team and a written or verbal review of each excursion provided by the organiser.

More detailed guidance on procedures and requirements can be obtained from the Education Department's Off-Site and Hazardous Activities File. Copies of this are held in the school office and staffroom library.

Guidelines when organising a school trip





VISIT / ACTIVITY

Inform the school in the event of any problems
Use the external emergency school number to leave a message for parents
Ring the School Secretary to confirm estimated time of arrival



FOLLOW-UP

1. Invoices and receipts to the Finance Officer
2. Follow-up work with pupils. Display around the school
3. Pupils write an account for the Newsletter
4. Staff / supervisor evaluation form completed
5. Brief write / verbal feedback to School Management Team (Head)



PHYSICAL IMPAIRMENT AND MEDICAL SUPPORT TEAM

Information on the Accessibility of Venues

This information has been prepared as a guide to some venues relating to particular subject areas. It contains some general information about accessibility and also included phone numbers so that you can contact the venue to discuss the individual needs of the pupils. Information is all subject to change and so it is advisable to check information at the venue and perhaps do a pre-visit to check that it will be suitable for your individual child.

Please read this in conjunction with the “Including Disabled pupils in Trips and Visits Out of School” policy which is available on the EIS website. There is also information available on many venues through the European Education Consultants system if your school is registered with the site.

The following websites may also provide additional information: www.visitsomerset.co.uk; Tourist Information offices; DissBASE accessible via main libraries

If you would like to add or amend information provided please contact Lucy Galloway or Sam Fisher at Chandos House, Castle Street, Bridgwater TA6 2DB 01278 446445. LGalloway@somerset.gov.uk

Curriculum Area: History – Tudors and Stuarts

Place	Address, phone number and contact if relevant	Summary details of venue	Accessibility	Toilets	Links to other curriculum areas
Coombe Sydenham	Near Washford, West Somerset 01643 702259 Education Officer John Burns	Private Tudor House a few rooms of which are open to the public. John gives tours and will arrange for dressing up in Tudor clothes and drama activities.	All public rooms are wheelchair accessible.	Accessible (up a wooden ramp for girls).	Science (£2.50 per child. Adults free)
Dunster Castle	Near Minehead, West Somerset 01643 821314	Large Castle Education Dept will arrange visits to meet curriculum needs Tudor paintings of Luttrell family/15 th	They have a stair climber that they attach to user's wheelchair. Then whole castle is accessible. Limited to one wheelchair user at	Accessible	Medieval and Victorian periods

		C Gatehouse with Tudor additions 17 th C Jacobean house with Tudor ceiling	a time in busy periods.		
Glastonbury Abbey	01458 832267	Abbey ruined in Tudor times. Education Officer available who will dress up as monk and talk about how monks lived.	Can access all buildings apart from Crypt. Paths are compacted gravel.	Accessible. In new visitor centre.	Medieval Approx £2.00 a head
Montacute House	Near Yeovil. 01935 823289 (Very busy! Need to book well in advance.)	Elizabethan House. Education Dept provide guides for groups and could organise for one group to study something in depth on ground floor.	Ground floor of house accessible with Great Hall, Dining Room and Parlour. Gardens and restaurant accessible.	Accessible	National Trust group rates apply
Sherborne Castle	Sherborne, Dorset 01935 813182	Elizabethan castle, built for Sir Walter Raleigh	Only ground floor of castle accessible. Garden access unrestricted but some steep paths.		
Barrington Court	Bariington, Nr Ilminster TA19 0NQ 01460 241938 Visitor Service Manager – Matthew Applegate Shut Nov - March	Tudor manor house and working kitchen garden. let to Stuart interiors with furniture for sale. Suitable for school groups	Step to Entrance. Ground floor only accessible includes kitchen, ball room, reception, buttery, dining room. Gardens level and partly accessible, some uneven paths.	Adapted WC	National Trust group rates apply

Romans

Place	Address, phone number and contact if relevant	Summary details of venue	Accessibility	Toilets	Links to other curriculum areas
Taunton Museum	John Bainbridge	Museum. Hands on sessions available in	Ground floor of museum accessible. Roman gallery is up		

		ground floor.	several steps.		
Roman Baths	Pump Room, Bath BA1 1LZ 01225 47785	Roman baths	Helpful Education office Teaching area accessible, baths are not.		
Chedworth Roman Villa	Yanworth, nr Cheltenham GL54 3LJ 01242 890904	Roman villa, over a mile of walls survive, mosaics, bathhouses, water-shrine and latrine	Ramped entrance with handrail. Visitor centre accessible. Poor access to some features of site , steps to all mosaics and museum. Live interpretation, hands-on activities	Adapted WC	National Trust group rates apply

Medieval

Place	Address, phone number and contact if relevant	Summary details of venue	Accessibility	Toilets	Links to other curriculum areas
Dunster Castle	Near Minehead, W Somerset 01643 821314	15 th century gatehouse, remains of medieval defences	They have a stair climber that they attach to user's wheelchair. Then whole castle is accessible. Limited to one wheelchair user at a time in busy periods.	Accessible	Victorian, Tudor, Life and Living Processes Educational Visit rates apply
Lytes Cary House	Nr Charlton Mackrell, Somerton	Medieval Manor House formal garden			
Muchelney Abbey	Muchelney, Langport TA10 0DQ 01458 250664 Education pack available	10C Benedictine Abbey and church. Remains of 15C cloister and Abbots house	Grounds accessible and ramped. Ground floor of abbey accessible. Virtual touch screen tour of upstairs available.	No	Free for educn. visits

	Open April to end Oct				
Glastonbury Abbey	Abbey Gatehouse, Magdalene St, Glastonbury, BA6 9EL 01458 832267	12 C Abbey. Legendary burial of King Arthur. Destroyed in Tudor Times	paths around site are compacted gravel. Can access all buildings apart from crypt. Education officer available who will dress up as monk.	Accessible toilet in visitors centre	Tudor dissolution £2.00 a head

Victorian

Place	Address, phone number and contact if relevant	Summary details of venue	Accessibility	Toilets	Links to other curriculum areas
Dunster Castle	Near Minehead, W Somerset 01643 821314	Attic and Basement Tours – learn about Victorian Kitchen and Basement Tours. Victorian additions including billiard room, drawing room and domestic servants area	They have a stair climber that they attach to user's wheelchair. Then whole castle is accessible. Limited to one wheelchair user at a time in busy periods.	Accessible	Tudor, Life and Living Processes Medieval Costs as for all National Trust properties
Chard Museum	Goldworthy House, High St, Chard 01460 65091	Displays of life and work in the 19 th and 20 th C. Try on costumes from 19C/2 nd world war	Most parts accessible.	Accessible	World wars Free for children
Coldharbour Mill	Uffculme, Cullompton, Devon EX15 3EE 01844 840960	Victorian Mill 3 interactive activities for schools Victorians, WW2 and Fibres	Accessible. Lift to all exhibits	Accessible	WW2 and Science – materials Art and Design
Rural Life Museum	Glastonbury 01458 831197 Contact Mary Gryspeerd	Demonstrates rural Victorian life	Ground floor and Old Kitchen Accessible. First floor and display of Victorian farming not accessible.		Free

20th C history

Place	Address, phone number and contact if relevant	Summary details of venue	Accessibility	Toilets	Links to other curriculum areas
West Somerset Railway	Steam Train line between Bishops Lydeard and Minehead 01643 704996 Katie Dunster	Will do sessions on WW2 evacuees	Ramps onto train at Bishops Lydeard. No problems at Minehead. Lorna Doone coach has space for up to 12 wheelchair users. Need to book in advance.	Accessible toilet at Minehead	Victorians (Parties of 16 or more £4.60)
Coldharbour Mill	Uffculme, Cullompton, Devon EX15 3EE 01844 840960	Victorian Mill Interactive Blitz Experience Home Front and factory at war Exhibition Life in 1940s	Accessible. Lift to all exhibits	Accessible	Victorians Science – materials Art and Design
Fleet, Air, Arm Museum	Yeovilton, Ilchester 01935 840565	Large collection of Naval aircraft. Concorde and simulated helicopter	Lift to enter building. Recommended route for disabled visitors. Concorde 002, “Brush with war” and “Merlin Experience” not accessible.	Accessible toilets	
Haynes Motor Museum	Sparkford, Somerset 01963 440804	large motor museum with some rare and exotic cars	Ramped entrance. All areas accessible.	Accessible toilet	
Helicopter Museum	Locking Moor Rd. Weston Super Mare 01934 635227	helicopters from Queen’s flight, Russian Gunship and world speed record holder		Accessible toilet	

General History

Place	Address, phone number and contact if relevant	Summary details of venue	Accessibility	Toilets	Links to other curriculum areas
Museum of Costume	Bennett St, Bath, BA1 2QH 01225 477752/ 477721 Virginia, Darrath Williams	Wide range of costumes	Situated on lower ground floor. Lift available	Accessible toilets	
Sherborne Castle	Sherborne, Dorset DT9 3PY 01935 813182 Open April to March	Castle built by Sir Walter Raleigh in 1594. 17 C and 18 C extensions. Tudor, Jacobean, Georgian and Victorian styles represented.	Ground floor only accessible. Gardens accessible but some steep paths.	2 accessible toilets	
Crewkerne Heritage Centre	Market Sq. Crewkerne TA18 7JU 01460 77079	Farmhouse kitchen of 20C, display on Saxon mint and famous grammar school	lift to access second floor Gallery 4 and the Local History Room are not accessible	Accessible toilet	
Ham Hill country Pk	Hambdon Hill, Yeovil Contact Katy Menday, South Somerset District Council 01935 462462	iron Age Hill-fort	One mile of all-ability trail suitable for wheelchair users (Park by Prince of Wales inn)		Iron Age
SS Great Britain	Great Western Dock, Bristol BS1 6TY 0117 926 0680	World's first great passenger liner	Lifts between all decks. T loop. Dockyard museum accessible	Yes	History

Curriculum Area: General Science

Place	Address, phone number and contact if relevant	Summary details of venue	Accessibility	Toilets	Links to other curriculum areas
@ Bristol	Anchor Rd, Bristol 0845 3451235	Explore. Interactive exhibits explaining scientific concepts	Building accessible. Individual need will determine access to displays.	Yes	
Coldharbour Mill	01844 840960	Victorian Mill 3 interactive activities for schools Victorians, WW2 and Fibres	Accessible. Lift to all exhibits	Accessible	WW2 and Victorians

Living Processes

Place	Address, phone number and contact if relevant	Summary details of venue	Accessibility	Toilets	Links to other curriculum areas
Combe Sydenham	Near Washford, West Somerset 01643 702259 Education Officer John Burns	Extensive woodland	Will set up session for stream dipping. Ground could be rough especially in wet periods.		
Grounds of Dunster Castle	Near Minehead, West Somerset 01643 821314	Spectacular views. Nature Trail in gardens.	Mostly accessible	Accessible	Tudor, Victorian Medieval
Holnicote Estate	Selworthy, Minehead TA24 8TJ 01643 862452 holnicote@nationa ltrust.org.uk	Diverse landscape of moor, woods, farms and coast	Easy Access trail at North Hill and Webbers Post. Adapted bird hide.	Accessible toilets at Bossington and Horner car parks	
@ Bristol	Anchor Rd, Bristol 0845 3451235	Wildwalk – interactive displays of animals and plants	Accessible.	Yes	

Wildlife Pk at Cricket St Thomas	Chard TA20 4DB 01460 30111	3 talks available for schools – lemurs, tapirs, leopards	Very hilly site. Accessible carriage on train. 3 talks available for schools – lemur, tapirs, leopards. Discuss individual needs.	Accessible toilets	Free admission to wheelchair users
Yeovil Country Pk	Yeovil, BA20 1AS 01935 462462	Park within city of Yeovil	All ability trail from Goldenstones leading up to valley garden with wide kissing gates. Cycleway from Lysander rd. to A30 is also all-ability route.		
Longleat Safari Pk	Warminster, Wiltshire BA12 7NW 01985 844400	Safari is in own vehicle Large number of other attractions	They have made most things accessible. House has stairs – ring for details		
Horse World	Whitchurch, Bristol BS14 0QJ 01275 540173	Horse welfare charity. Farmyard animals, presentations and shows, nature trail	Hard level surfaces and free loan of wheelchair		
Tropiquaria	Washford, Minehead TA23 0QB 01984 641105	Tropical room with birds, lizards, monkeys etc. Can touch snakes and spiders.	Aquarium and puppet show and café have stairs to access them.		
Bristol Zoo Gardens	Clifton, Bristol BS8 3HA 0117 973 8951	Seal and penguin Coast, bug World and Twilight World Education packages available	All accessible with ramps where needed		
Slimbridge Wetlands Centre	Slimbridge, Glocs 01453 891900	Large numbers of ducks, geese and swans Visitors centre is very eco friendly	Accessible tarmaced paths. Most hides accessible apart from furthest ones	Yes	

Habitats

Place	Address, phone number and contact if relevant	Summary details of venue	Accessibility	Toilets	Links to other curriculum areas
Fyne Court	Broomfield, Near Bridgwater	At edge of Quantock Hills. Walk through woodland with ponds.	1 trail of about 1 mile is wheelchair accessible	1 accessible toilet	Free
Swell Wood, part of West Sedgemoor Nature Reserve	South West of Langport (On A378) 01458 252805 www.rspb.org.uk	Walk through woodland. Heronry hide. Can see heron nests (best in March/April when can see birds sitting on them and chicks)	Short distance of trail is accessible for wheelchairs users. Boarded path so fairly easy access. Lower part of hide accessible.	No	
Greylake	On A361 between Othery and Ashcott. 01458 252805 www.rspb.org.uk	Greylake nature reserve on wetlands. See winter migrants such as ducks, lapwings, swans and waders on flooded plains.	700m nature trail – easy terrain and suitable for wheelchairs Large, enclosed, Accessible hide	No	
Shapwick Heath	Near Peat Moors Centre 01458 860120 www.english-nature.org.uk	Wetland habitat for birds and water animals. Network of paths which are mostly flat but can be wet. Bird hide	300m elevated boardwalk suitable for wheelchairs. Car park with barrier that can be opened for disabled people by arrangement. (Or park in Peat Moors carpark and walk 400m along road.	No	Could combine with visit to Peat Moors Centre and work on Neolithic Man
Ham Wall	Entrance at Ashcott corner on Meare to Ashcott Rd. 01458 860494 www.rspb.org.uk	Old peat workings on Somerset Levels. Reedbed habitat.	Accessible walkway for wheelchair users, viewing areas and screens with tactile displays and a sound box. Motorised buggy available from Willows Garden Centre (01458 440155) Parking for disabled visitors accessed with RADAR key.		
Yeovil Country Park	Park at Goldenstones Leisure Centre car	Informal parkland laid out in 18 th Century	All-ability trail leading up into valley garden with gentler gradients, improved paths and		

	park in centre of Yeovil 01935 462462 www.southsomerset.gov.uk		wide kissing gates. Cycleway from Lysander Road to A30 at Wyndham Hill is also an all ability route.		
River Parrett	Visitor Centre, Langport 01458 250350 Parrett trail Officer 01823 355672 Kate Jenkins	Tandem bike available for disabled visitors	Level access to riverbank from car park along Cocklemoor		
Moldrams Ground Local Nature Reserve	East of Wincanton. 01935 462462 www.southsomerset.gov.uk	Large bog surrounded by dry woodland and unimproved grassland.	All ability section of trail. Benches and viewing points along the all-ability section. Paths get narrower further along.	No	

Geography

Place	Address, phone number and contact if relevant	Summary details of venue	Accessibility	Toilets	Links to other curriculum areas
Cheddar Gorge	Cheddar 01934 742810 Bob Smart	Series of caves	Can get half way around Gough Cave only (20 mins). Gift shop, cafe bar, new museum will be accessible.	Yes	Free for wheelchair user
Wookey Hole	Nr Wells, 01749 672243	Caves plus Victorian penny arcade	Caves not accessible. Virtual tour available. Rest accessible.	Yes	Victorians
River Parrett	Visitor Centre, Langport 01458 250350 Parrett trail Officer 01823 355672 Kate Jenkins	Tandem bike available for disabled visitors	Level access to riverbank from car park along Cocklemoor		
Moldrams Ground local Nature Reserve	Contact Katy Mendhay, Countryside	Large bog surrounded by dry woodland and grassland.	Short bit of all ability trail		

	Officer, South Somerset District Council 01935 462462				
Ham Hill country Pk	Hambdon Hill, Yeovil Contact Katy Menday, SSDC 01935 462462	Iron Age Hill-fort	One mile of all-ability trail suitable for wheelchair users (Park by Prince of Wales inn)		Iron Age
Willows and Wetland Centre	Stoke St Gregory, TA3 6HY Contact Jean Allen, 01823 490249	Family run business with 170 yrs experience of willow industry Tour to see process of harvesting willow to basket making	Portable ramp available for entrance. Upstairs exhibition and display area inaccessible to wheelchair users. 4 steps to museum and video room. Tour accessible	Accessible toilet	
Create Environment Centre	Smeaton Rd, Bristol BS1 6XN 0117 9250505	Environment Centre and recycling exhibition	Lift to all floors. Life Skills Centre for pupils with learning difficulties. (mock supermarket, road etc.)		

RE

Place	Address, phone number and contact if relevant	Summary details of venue	Accessibility	Toilets	Links to other curriculum areas
Seikh Temple	81-83 Chalsey Rd, Easton, Bristol Contact Narinder Kaur, 0117 952 5023	Seikh temple	Lower floor is accessible. Holy book is upstairs.		

ENGLISH

Place	Address, phone number and contact if relevant	Summary details of venue	Accessibility	Toilets	Links to other curriculum areas
Coleridge Cottage	Nether Stowey, TA5 1NQ 01278 732662	Coleridge lived in cottage for 3 years from 1797 and wrote "The Ancient Mariner"	Steps to Entrance. Contact in advance		

Activity Holidays

Place	Address, phone number and contact if relevant	Summary details of venue	Accessibility	Toilets	Links to other curriculum areas
Calvert Trust	Exmoor 01598 763221 Kielder, Northumberland 01434 250232 Keswick 017687 72255	Activity Centre. abseiling, zip wire, canoeing, kayaking, sailing, fishing carriage driving etc	All activities accessible for wheelchair users with staff to help. Accommodation accessible. About 55 beds.		
Osmington Bay	Weymouth DT3 6EG 01305 836200	PGL activity centre.	Disabled facilities	Yes	
Simonsbath Outdoor Centre	Simonsbath, Exmoor TA24 7SH 01643 831382	Activity Centre			
Kilve Court, Kilve, West Somerset					
Hill House, Otterhampton					

Further Resources

www.direct.gov.uk/bbmobile for information about how to access an interactive map showing locations of bluebadge parking places and accessible toilets. Need a mobile phone that can access the internet. Text BLUE to 83377. Not currently working – hoping to get local authorities to provide.

Rough Guide to Accessible Britain. £6.99. To order www.accessibleguide.co.uk
www.tourismforall.org.uk – charity which provides information on accessible accommodation etc
www.walkswithwheelchairs.com and www.walkswithbuggies.com

*Costs for National Trust Properties: : Need to purchase group membership for £30-50 (depending on size of school) and can have 2 trips for up to 60 pupils in a year for this cost.