

Castle View Enterprise Academy Accessibility Survey/Questionnaire

The survey was completed by 53 correspondents in February 2021. The correspondents are a mixture of SEND students, their parents, and staff. The results are summarised below

Question 1

The academy promotes successful learning for all students to achieve their full potential.

Agree – 97.5%

Neither Agree or Disagree – 2.5%

Disagree- 0%

Question 2

The school site and buildings are accessible to the whole school community.

Agree- 95%

Neither Agree or Disagree – 2.5%

Disagree – 2.5%

Question 3

There are no barriers preventing school staff from gaining access to all areas of school life in the academy.

Agree- 87.5%

Neither Agree or Disagree – 10%

Disagree – 2.5%

Question 4

The Academy maintains effective communication with all members of the school community.

Agree- 97.5%

Neither Agree or Disagree – 2.5%

Disagree – 0%

Question 5

What barriers (if any) do you think the school site and buildings have for the whole school community?

Five correspondents raised identified a barrier. These barriers identified are:

- More effective lighting around the building and car park needed.
- More disabled toilets and changing rooms needed.
- The pick-up of children after school when there is heavy traffic on the main street instead of using the car park is dangerous.
- The size of seating area for lunch is not suited to sensory deprivation needs of some students.
- Separating each year group does not allow them to mix freely.

Question 6

Are there any improvements that you could suggest that would promote accessibility for all at break and lunch times?

Three correspondents suggested improvements. These improvements are:

- Longer lunch times gives students time to eat their food in their own time.
- More tables and bigger gaps are needed between tables so that movement is easier for students.
- Students need easier microwave access for packed lunches.

Question 7

Are there any improvements that you could suggest that would promote accessibility for all in extra-curricular activities?

One correspondent suggested improvements. This improvement is:

- Funding of all clubs, excursions and materials for all students will make it accessible to all.

Question 8

Are there any improvements that you could suggest that would promote accessibility for all on residential visits?

Three correspondents suggested improvements. These improvements are:

- Visits should be linked to a range of subjects rather than mainly sporting ones.
- Financial support would be a good idea for those struggling to pay for residential visits.
- Ensure venues of residential visits are suitable for all.

Question 9

Are there any improvements that you could suggest that would promote accessibility for all on school trips and visits?

Three correspondents suggested improvements. These improvements are:

- A range of trips across all subjects not just sport and clubs would be better.
- Asking students where they would like to go. My son has no interest in skiing yet loved to go to Derwent Hill. Trips in the UK are probably financially more affordable for parents.
- Fully funded trips would be great for all.

Question 10

As a member of the school community what do you feel the school can do to improve communication?

Four correspondents suggested improvements. These improvements are:

- Better use of the app and social media will make communication easier for all.
- Positive feedback to be given to parents just as regularly as negative feedback.
- Weekly review emails on pupils' progress to parents.
- More newsletters of events will be great.

Castle View Enterprise Academy Accessibility Survey Response and Actions for Improvement

What barriers (if any) do you think the school site and buildings have for the whole school community?

You said: More effective lighting around the building and car park needed.

We did: A number of lightbulbs have been replaced around the building and in the car park to enhance visibility.

You said: More disabled toilets and changing rooms needed.

We did: The building meets the requirements for the number of disabled toilets, and we never have a situation where these don't meet the requirements of our staff and students. There are six changing rooms which meet the needs of our curriculum.

You said: The pick-up of children after school when there is heavy traffic on the main street instead of using the car park is dangerous.

We did: We would encourage students to cycle or walk to school to promote mental and physical well-being. The car park had to be closed due to Covid-19 regulations. However, moving forward, we feel that opening the car park negatively impact safety. We encourage parents and carers to collect their children away from Cartwright Road to aid traffic flow.

You said: The size of seating area for lunch is not suited to sensory deprivation needs of some students.

We did: We are limited by the size of our restaurant and the number of students in each year group. Separate lunch times for each year group have positively impacted the lunch time experience for students. Students with sensory deprivation issues would be subject to individual plans and would be catered for accordingly.

You said: Separating each year group does not allow them to mix freely.

We did: This has been a government regulation during the Covid-19 pandemic. More movement around the Academy will be permitted in the future, although for reasons of health and safety this must be in a planned and controlled manner.

Are there any improvements that you could suggest that would promote accessibility for all at break and lunch times?

You said: Longer lunch times gives students time to eat their food in their own time.

We did: We need to rationalise the length of lunch time with the benefits of individual year group sittings. Unfortunately, they impact each other, and we must aim to provide a best-case scenario.

You said: More tables and bigger gaps are needed between tables so that movement is easier for students.

We did: We have invested in more tables and the Main Hall is used when we feel that the main restaurant area is too crowded.

You said: Students need easier microwave access for packed lunches.

We did: This is not allowed under government regulations.

Are there any improvements that you could suggest that would promote accessibility for all in extra-curricular activities?

You said: Funding of all clubs, excursions and materials for all students will make it accessible to all.

We did: The majority clubs are fully funded, and students are not asked to contribute. Where additional costs are passed on to parents / carers, personal circumstances are considered. We also have funding available for pupil premium students.

Are there any improvements that you could suggest that would promote accessibility for all on residential visits?

You said: Visits should be linked to a range of subjects rather than mainly sporting ones.

We did: Sports by its nature tends to lead to more trips and visits. We try to balance the need for work in school and fulfilling the curriculum, with the value of trips and visits, and will continue to monitor this.

You said: Financial support would be a good idea for those struggling to pay for residential visits.

We did: Where additional costs of visits are passed on to parents / carers, personal circumstances are considered. We also have funding available for pupil premium students.

You said: Ensure venues of residential visits are suitable for all.

We did: We would never stop anybody accessing a residential visit, unless it was unsafe for them to do so. We are equitable in all of our provisions.

Are there any improvements that you could suggest that would promote accessibility for all on school trips and visits?

You said: A range of trips across all subjects not just sport and clubs would be better.

We did: Sports by its nature tends to lead to more trips and visits. We try to balance the need for work in school and fulfilling the curriculum, with the value of trips and visits, and will continue to monitor this.

You said: Asking students where they would like to go. My son has no interest in skiing yet loved to go to Derwent Hill. Trips in the UK are probably financially more affordable for parents.

We did: We take this onboard and will discuss this through our Student Council.

You said: Fully funded trips would be great for all.

We did: Unfortunately, this is not possible for all trips due to the school budget, but most of our non-residential trips are free of charge.

As a member of the school community what do you feel the school can do to improve communication?

You said: Better use of the app and social media will make communication easier for all.

We did: We are constantly looking to improve our social media and are in the process of reviewing the use of social media as a communication tool.

You said: Positive feedback to be given to parents just as regularly as negative feedback.

We did: All parents / carers can monitor their child's positive behaviour via Class Charts. Nomination for Recognition cards are given to over 150 students every half term. We do agree this is important and will encourage staff to make more direct contact with parents where students deserve positive recognition.

You said: Weekly review emails on pupils' progress to parents.

We did: Logistically not possible but we do have arrangements with parents who have requested this.

You said: More newsletters of events will be great.

We did: The Academy sends out regular newsletters, but we agree we will look into a series of regular dates for distribution of newsletters.