

## **Opportunity for Physically Disabled Pupils in Mainstream Primary Schools**

We have been organising sessions on a Tuesday afternoon at Clare School for pupils in mainstream settings for several terms and the sessions have proved to be very successful. It is an opportunity for the children and their parents and/or support assistants to meet, and enjoy some of the facilities that the Clare can offer.

Parents, who can feel isolated from others in a mainstream setting due to their own child's disability, have been positive about meeting others with similar challenges and have been able to share information and experiences. Support assistants have appreciated the opportunity to swap ideas and share expertise. Many have commented on the benefits of talking to someone doing a very similar job to their own, and how good it is to see the child they work with in an alternative environment. The children have been able to access some excellent facilities but perhaps have been even more pleased to meet others with the same splints, an identical wheelchair or a similar communication aid.

We shall have use of the sensory room, soft play room and music room next term, and the fully accessible playground when the weather allows. There is a roundabout and swing that can be used by wheelchair users, and an accessible climbing frame.

Transport to the Clare School is the responsibility of the family, and children must be accompanied by at least one adult at all times. This opportunity is not limited to families in the Central area though it is recognised that distance may make it less manageable for pupils living a long distance from Norwich.

If you have a pupil who may benefit from this opportunity please contact Kim Barber to discuss – contact details below.

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