



Deborah Gundle

Fair Play Barnet Accessible and Inclusive Playground for children and Adults



Key Takeaways

- ▶ **Everyone has the right to play.**
- ▶ **All playgrounds should be accessible and can be at no or little extra cost.**
- ▶ **Inclusion is important for healthy society.**
- ▶ **Designing for accessibility is easy!**
- ▶ **Equipment suppliers want to make playgrounds accessible.**



**Everyone has the
right to play**

- ▶ **Article 31 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) creates a specific right for all children to engage in play and recreational activities.**
- ▶ **The governments disability action plan has a specific section on playgrounds. The plan uses Fair Play playground as a model.**



Why is this important?

- ▶ 24 % percent of our population is disabled .
- ▶ Siblings are unable to play together.
- ▶ People with disabilities are mostly isolated.
- ▶ Playgrounds have significant health, fitness and well being benefits.
- ▶ Disability 'price tag' cost of living extra £975 per month (Scope Charity)
- ▶ Lets even the playing field!

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**Inclusion is
important for a
healthy society.**

- ▶ **Stigma- play removes social barriers**
- ▶ **Society can tap into a broader range of talents and perspectives leading to innovation and social progress – everyone has something to contribute**

FAIR PLAY BARNET — OPEN TO ALL!
VICTORIA RECREATION GROUND — LONDON BOROUGH OF BARNET



**Designing for
accessibility
is easy!**

Designing for accessibility is easy!



- Wetpour safety surfacing to ensure wheelchair accessibility.
- Flat landscape to give clear sightlines for carers.
- Textured path for the visually impaired.
- Single entrance/exit to prevent users leaving without their carer's knowledge.
- Accessible equipment for wheelchair users and people who need support.
- Inclusive equipment allowing children of all abilities to play alongside one another.
- Equipment that enables rocking, swinging, spinning, climbing and sliding.
- Sensory activity panels for touch, movement and sound.
- Customised communications boards for non – verbal people, people who don't speak the same language or have dementia, placed strategically around the playground at various heights.
- Quiet spots for downtime
- Slightly raised heights of equipment for teenagers and adults
- Picnic tables with seating spaces for multiple wheelchairs for family and friends to sit together
- Disabled toilet
- Toilet facility with changing bed.
- Easy access to local transport buses and trains
- Disabled parking
- Proximity to a café

FAQs



- ▶ **Fair Play can be replicated in whole or in part.**
- ▶ **Existing playgrounds can be made more accessible by refurbishing piece by piece.**
- ▶ **Cost to maintain is minimally more. It is agreed that it's a small amount to pay for the benefits.**



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Equipment suppliers want to make playgrounds accessible, they just need to be asked.

Impact You Can Make

Lots of SEN families coming from near and far 🚗
🚌 🚆

SEN adults coming who used to just sit in the
cafe, coming regularly, having fun and socialising
🙌🙌

Parents coming for their children but also coming
to meet other parents with similar experiences



Lots of inclusive play 👍

Children of all abilities making games up using
the picture symbol communication boards 👍

Parents talking to their children about diversity
and disability ✌️

Community groups holding meet ups in the
playground 👍



“ Yesterday all playgrounds were great, today only this one is. ”

Adam S

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**Let's make Fair Play
one of many!**

