

## Consultation Response Form

### Auxiliary aids and services for disabled children

**Press 'Tab' to take you to the next point.**

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Responses should be returned by **3 February 2012** to

Additional Learning Needs Branch  
Support for Learners Division  
Department for Education and Skills  
Welsh Government  
Cathays Park  
Cardiff  
CF10 3NQ

or completed electronically and sent to:

[AdditionalLearningNeedsBranch@wales.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:AdditionalLearningNeedsBranch@wales.gsi.gov.uk).

#### Question 1

**a)** Do you think 1 September 2012 is an appropriate commencement date for the new auxiliary aids duty?

Yes

**b)** If you think that the commencement date should be earlier or later than September 2012, please state when you think the earliest commencement date should be and the reasons why having a later commencement date would be appropriate.

## Question 2

**a)** The Equality and Human Rights Commission will be producing a statutory code of practice and guidance for schools about the operation of the reasonable adjustments duty, including the requirement to provide auxiliary aids and services. Do you think this is likely to sufficiently address concerns about the implementation and operation of the new duty?

Yes. This legislation crystallises and clarifies what already happens. It will strengthen the role of reasonableness and that of Local Authorities.

**b)** If your answer to a) above is No, do you think that there are additional matters that could be prescribed in regulations that would then sufficiently address your concerns?

When responding to this question please bear in mind that the power to make regulations only permits the following matters to be prescribed:

- matters to be taken into account in deciding whether it is reasonable for a person to have to take a particular step
- circumstances in which it is, or in which it is not, reasonable for a person (such as a school or a local authority) to have to take steps of a prescribed description
- things which are, or which are not, to be treated as auxiliary aids.

**Question 3**

We welcome any specific information that can be provided to us about the circumstances, and number, of children who might currently be affected by the absence of the auxiliary aids requirement as part of the reasonable adjustments duty. In particular we would be interested to know about the potential number of children affected and the types of reasonable adjustments that a school does not currently make, but could be required to make after the new requirement was commenced.

#### Question 4

We have asked a number of specific questions. If you have any related issues which we have not specifically addressed, please use this space to report them:

Responses to consultations may be made public – on the internet or in a report. If you would prefer your response to be kept confidential, please tick here: