

Disability Policy

This is the practice policy in respect of discrimination on the grounds of disability. The practice is committed to working towards equality of opportunity for every member of the practice team and for every patient. This statement is one important way of achieving this objective.

THE POLICY

The practice recognises that discrimination on the grounds of disability is illegal. Through this policy, through training and by example, the practice wishes to demonstrate that it does not tolerate discrimination by anyone working at the practice.

Patients

The practice and its staff will not treat a disabled person less favourably than another person because of a disability. Less favourable treatment includes:

- *Refusing to treat a disabled patient*
- *Giving a disabled patient a lower standard of service or treating him or her in a worse manner than an able-bodied patient*
- *Offering a disabled patient less favourable terms.*

The following exceptions may occur when, in the dentist's opinion

- *Health and safety reasons exist where either the patient or someone else would come to some harm if the dentist did not refuse treatment*
- *A disabled patient is unable to understand that treatment must be paid for, where appropriate*
- *The situation would mean negating or no longer providing the service*

The practice will do its best to change or remove policies, practices and procedures, provide auxiliary aids and overcome physical features that make it very difficult or impossible for a disabled patient to use the practice.

This policy will be reviewed and updated regularly.

Review: Jan 2016

Signed:

Date:

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