

Theme: Are all disabilities visual?

Rationale: Build children’s understanding of a variety of disabilities.

Year Group	Focus	Vocabulary	Knowledge	Enrichment ideas	Catholic Life	Reading
EYFS	Deafness	Deaf Deafness Sign language Communicate Hearing aid	<p>A person who is deaf either has trouble hearing or cannot hear at all. Deafness can occur in one ear or in both ears.</p> <p>There are a number of reasons why people are deaf. Parents can pass down genes, diseases and head injuries, ear infections, too much earwax can also cause temporary deafness. In some cases people lose hearing because of listening to loud noise. People often lose some hearing as they get older, too.</p> <p>Sometimes deafness cannot be prevented or treated. This is the case when deafness is caused by genes or by old age. However, vaccines can prevent certain diseases that might damage the ears. People who work in noisy places can wear earplugs. Hearing aids help people who are partially deaf. In some cases a doctor can perform surgery. An example would be when an ear passage is blocked. If nerves are damaged, a doctor might put a cochlear implant under the skin near the ear.</p> <p>Deaf people can still communicate. They can read lips. Some use their hands to make signs for letters, words, and ideas. This is known as sign language. They can also learn to speak. Many are helped by speech therapy.</p>	Sign language activities as a class.	Recognise everyone is special and unique	
Year 1	Selective Mutism	Mutism Anxiety	<p>Selective mutism is an anxiety disorder where a person is unable to speak in certain social situations, such as with classmates at school or to relatives they do not see very often.</p> <p>A child or adult with selective mutism does not refuse or choose not to speak at certain times, they're literally unable to speak.</p>	Work together to read/re-tell a familiar story. Encourage the children to join in together at certain times. Often fairy tales will have repeated	Understand everyone has needs and rights. Understand how their actions and	Lola's words disappeared

			<p>The expectation to talk to certain people triggers a freeze response with feelings of anxiety and panic, and talking is impossible.</p> <p>However, people with selective mutism are able to speak freely to certain people, such as close family and friends, when nobody else is around to trigger the freeze response.</p> <p>Selective mutism affects about 1 in 140 young children.</p> <p>Selective mutism can be helped with treatment/therapy.</p>	<p>sections that can be said in unison, e.g. for Jack and the Beanstalk, this could be 'Fee Fi Fo Fum, I smell the blood of an Englishman!'</p> <p>Playing with puppets, masks or voice-activated toys: Children with selective mutism may find this easier than directly talking and it can be a way in which to support interaction with others</p>	<p>words can impact on others.</p>	
Year 2	Colour Blindness Vision		<p>Colour vision deficiency (colour blindness) is where you see colours differently to most people, and have difficulty telling colours apart. There's no treatment for colour vision deficiency that runs in families, but people usually adapt to living with it.</p> <p>People usually adapt well to life with colour vision deficiency.</p> <p>The most common type of colour vision deficiency makes it hard to tell the difference between red and green. Another type makes blue and yellow look the same. In rare cases, people have complete colour vision deficiency, which means they don't see colour at all.</p> <p>People may have trouble seeing:</p> <p>The difference between colours</p> <p>How bright colours are</p> <p>Different shades of colours</p>	<p>Create art work inspired by the work of Mary Stuart-Miller.</p>		

			<p>Support- Glasses and contacts. Special contact lenses and eyeglasses may help people who have colour vision deficiency tell the difference between colours. They work by increasing the contrast between colours so they're easier to tell apart.</p> <p>Visual aids. Apps let people take photos with a phone or tablet and then tap on part of the photo to find out what colour it is.</p>			
Year 3	Visual Impairment	Blindness Impairment Retina Braille	<p>In the UK, more than 2 million people are living with sight loss. Of these, around 340,000 are registered as blind or partially sighted.</p> <p>The term "visual impairment" is used to describe sight loss that cannot be corrected using glasses or contact lenses.</p> <p>The word "blindness" is commonly used to describe total, or near-total sight loss.</p> <p>There are many possible causes of visual impairment or blindness. The leading cause of visual impairment in adults is age-related macular degeneration. The retina is a thin layer of tissue that lines the back of the inside of eye. At the centre of the retina is the "macula", a small oval-shaped area that contains all the cells that help us see well. With age, the macula wears out.</p> <p>Visual impairments may be treated through optical aids, medication, or surgical procedures such as laser eye surgery or glaucoma surgery.</p>	<p>You could try a braille activity as a class.</p> <p>https://www.twinkl.co.uk/resource/braille-matching-activity-sheet-t-s-2548563</p> <p>The children could try to write their name in braille</p> <p>https://www.twinkl.co.uk/resource/my-name-in-braille-activity-sheet-t-s-2548562</p>	<p>Understand everyone has needs and rights.</p> <p>Recognise how to be supportive and understanding to others.</p> <p>Understand how their actions and words can impact on others.</p>	
Year 4	Young Carers: Living with Disability in the Family	Young carer Responsibility Support Disability Empathy Balance Wellbeing	<p>A young carer is a child or young person who helps look after someone in their family who is ill, has a disability, or struggles with daily tasks.</p> <p>People may live with different disabilities: physical (affecting the body), sensory (affecting hearing or sight), or hidden (affecting the mind or how someone feels).</p> <p>Young carers might help with cooking, cleaning or offering emotional support.</p>	<p>Guest speaker or video call with a representative from a local Young Carers charity or a parish volunteer group.</p> <p>Role-play activities to understand different daily</p>	<p>Reflect on the Gospel message of service and love for neighbour (e.g., The Good Samaritan).</p>	<p><i>The Great Big Book of Families</i> by Mary Hoggman – celebrates different family situations.</p>

		<p>Resilience Community Compassion</p>	<p>Being a young carer can be rewarding but also tiring or stressful.</p> <p>There are organisations and trusted adults (school staff, parish, charities) who support young carers and their families.</p> <p>Everyone deserves time for play, friendship, and education, even if they have caring responsibilities.</p> <p>Showing empathy and kindness helps build a community where everyone feels included.</p>	<p>tasks a young carer might do, followed by reflection on feelings and solutions.</p> <p>Art project: "Hands of Help" – each child decorates a paper hand showing a way they can support someone in need.</p> <p>Fundraising or awareness day for a local disability or carers' charity (cake sale, sponsored read).</p> <p>Link to Science: explore how the human body works and how technology (wheelchairs, hearing aids, prosthetics) supports people with disabilities.</p>	<p>Class liturgy or prayer service focusing on compassion and supporting those in need.</p> <p>Create a "Circle of Care" display showing how we can share Christ's love by helping others while respecting our own limits.</p> <p>Discuss how Catholic social teaching calls us to uphold the dignity of every person, especially the vulnerable.</p>	<p><i>The Secret Garden</i> (abridged) – themes of illness and friendship.</p> <p><i>Young Carers' Stories</i> (from Barnardo's or similar charities – age-appropriate case studies).</p> <p>Extracts from Scripture: The Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37).</p> <p>Non-fiction texts about disabilities and inventions that help people live independently.</p>
Year 5	Dyslexia	<p>learning difficulty information processing.</p>	<p>Dyslexia is a specific learning difficulty which primarily affects reading and writing skills. However, it does not only affect these skills. Dyslexia is actually about information processing. Dyslexic people may have difficulty processing and remembering information they see and hear, which can affect learning and the acquisition of literacy skills. Dyslexia can also impact on other areas such as organisational skills.</p> <p>It is important to remember that there are positives to thinking differently. Many dyslexic people show strengths in areas such as reasoning and in visual and creative fields.</p>	<p>The children could research significant people who have dyslexia and create a fact file about their life and achievements.</p>	<p>Understand everyone has needs and rights.</p> <p>Recognise how to be supportive and understanding to</p>	<p>Magnificent Meg https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b4Av0EpBt5I</p> <p>Discussion about the theme of the</p>

			<p>It's estimated up to 1 in every 10 people in the UK has some degree of dyslexia.</p> <p>Dyslexia is lifelong and can present challenges on a daily basis. At school, children with dyslexia may have more support from adults during the day/week, support with reading and writing, use technology for support.</p>		<p>all in the community.</p> <p>Understand how their actions and words can work towards and inclusive society</p>	<p>book- What do you find hard?</p>
Year 6	Dementia	<p>Syndrome Symptoms Cure</p>	<p>Dementia is a syndrome (a group of related symptoms) associated with an ongoing decline of brain functioning. There are many different causes of dementia, and many different types.</p> <p>Research shows there are more than 944,000 people in the UK who have dementia. 1 in 11 people over the age of 65 have dementia in the UK.</p> <p>The number of people with dementia is increasing because people are living longer. It is estimated that by 2030, the number of people with dementia in the UK will be more than 1 million.</p> <p>Dementia symptoms may include problems with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● memory loss ● thinking speed ● mental sharpness and quickness ● language, such as using words incorrectly, or trouble speaking ● understanding ● judgement ● mood ● movement ● difficulties doing daily activities 	<p>Write poems based on memory.</p> <p>Design a memory card game.</p> <p>Find out some numerical facts on dementia and present these on a poster.</p> <p>Learn about charities which help older members of the community and find out about the work they do.</p>	<p>Understand everyone has needs and rights.</p> <p>Recognise how to be supportive and understanding to all in the community.</p> <p>Understand how their actions and words can work towards and inclusive society</p>	

			There is currently no cure for dementia. But there are medicines and other treatments that can help with dementia symptoms.			
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