

9 September 2004
PRESS RELEASE

NDCS welcomes extended schools

Susan Daniels, Chief Executive of NDCS and Disability Rights Commissioner today welcomed the government's announcement on Extended Schools:

"NDCS welcomes the government's confirmation of its pledge to increase childcare and early year support this week. However, like the Daycare Trust, we want reassurance that the Extended Schools will be developed to meet the needs of deaf and other disabled children. If the needs of these groups are not considered at the earliest stages of planning then all the extra support, whether it's breakfast clubs or holiday schemes, will only serve to isolate and exclude. "NDCS has launched a Deaf Friendly Schools Pledge with materials to help schools support deaf children and a similar approach should be adopted by the government for Extended Schools."

Notes to editor

* For more information please contact Sarah Etwell, communications manager NDCS on Tel: 010 2014 1144 email: setwell@ndcs.org.uk

* Founded in 1944, The National Deaf Children's Society celebrates its Diamond Anniversary this year. It is the leading UK charity to provide on-going support, information, advice and advocacy on all aspects of childhood deafness for deaf children, deaf young people, their families, carers and professionals working with them.

* Parents can contact the charity's freephone helpline on 0808 800 8880 (voice and text) or access the website at www.ndcs.org.uk