Parenting and Disability – Access Overview

The new Equality Act (2010) received Royal Assent in April 2010. Part of the Act includes a public sector Equality Duty, which is due to become law on 6 April 2011, requiring public bodies and others carrying out public functions to embed equality considerations into their day to day work; these considerations will include the equality of access. Facilities which will be affected include hospitals and health centres. This learning package is going to explore what are the real access issues that disabled parents face on a day to day basis. Working as an interprofessional team you will explore ACCESS and you will reflect upon your own practice and answer the following:

*Have health care services embraced the Equality Act sufficiently to ensure that all parents with disability can gain access to members of the multiprofessional team involved in their care?*

*Can new parents with disability access the information needed to support their parenting decisions?*

The e-tivities will consider ACCESS under four broad categories namely:

- Physical access
- Access to information
- Access to health promotion
- Informed choice and consent

You will be considering real case studies (anonymised) which poignantly highlight the issues that health care professionals must address so that our services are accessible to disabled parents.
Now commence working through the section on physical access first by reviewing the Powerpoint presentation and then moving on to the e-tivities. (Click image below to open slideshow)

Physical Access

Difficulties and challenges