

Accessibility Policy and Plan



This plan is drawn up in accordance with Schedule 10 of the Equality Act 2010 which requires schools to draw up, publish, implement and review a written plan to

- increase access to the curriculum for disabled pupils;
- improve the physical environment of the school to increase access for disabled pupils
- improve the accessibility and availability of information to disabled pupils

The Act defines disability as when a person has a 'physical or mental impairment which has a substantial and long term adverse effect on that person's ability to carry out normal day to day activities.'

This plan recognises what is already in place in our school and includes future steps we will take.

Future steps have been identified as part of the process of drawing up, implementing and reviewing the School Improvement Plan, updating the School SEND Report, regular and ongoing consideration of existing and potential barriers to learning and to access to the school and to information and ongoing engagement with parents.

Access to the curriculum and participation in school activities

This involves increasing the extent to which pupils with a disability can participate in the school curriculum and activities.

The school has already:

- Provided specialist hardware and software for the use of pupils with fine motor skill difficulties.
- Ensured that provision is made for children with disabilities in all of the trips undertaken by the school.
- Provided specific training for staff in Early Years on supporting children with a social communication and speaking impairments.

During 2025-2027 the school plans to:

- Continue to provide training for teachers to implement branch mapping for children who need these smaller steps to track and capture progress as well as provide training for teachers to ensure small step learning is planned for and tracked in line with termly individual and class support plans.
- Provide support and training for staff where children need to access the curriculum from a pre-key stage so that their learning experiences are appropriate to their stage of development eg. accessing Early Years curriculum objectives for children who are in KS2.
- Provide further bespoke support and training for staff to support children with specific medical needs so that these needs can be safely and successfully managed within the school setting.

Access to the Physical Environment

This involves improving the physical environment of the school to improve access to the building and its facilities for all members of the school community.

The school has already:

- Investigated impact of layout, environment and lighting on children with ASC or other additional need and changed the lighting in the corridor.
- Looked into providing easier access for wheelchair users to the office and reception staff by altering the entrance of the door at point of entry, however this was not possible due to design and space restrictions.
- Investigate the facilities in the playground for children with additional needs so that there are opportunities to engage children socially at less structured times and with their peers.
- Source additional PE resources/equipment for children with additional physical needs so that they have full access to all sports.
- Source specialist furniture to meet the needs of children with physical and medical requirements so that children can learn safely and securely in the school setting.

During the 2025 – 2027 the school plans to:

- Investigate the addition of an outdoor sensory space for children with sensory and additional physical needs to avoid the bustle of the playground.

Access to Information

This involves improving the delivery of information to any member of the school community who has a disability

The school has already:

- Produced newsletters in alternative formats, e.g. pictures to illustrate news, on-line so can be enlarged.
- Consulted with parents, staff and pupils on the accessibility of information on the school website and amended as appropriate e.g. providing images (minimum text) and videos.
- Improved communication with parents and carers using electronic texts, emails and website.

During the 2025- 2027 the school plans to:

- Continue to provide the opportunity for a dedicated staff member to meet with parents who need support in accessing information such as school applications, SEND consultations etc.
- Support parents who do not speak English and need information translated.

Further information and advice

https://councilfordisabledchildren.org.uk/sites/default/files/field/attachemnt/equality-act-schools_online.pdf

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/15/schedule/10>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/equality-act-2010-advice-for-schools>

Access to the curriculum and participation in school activities 2025- 2027

Area	Current Barrier	Objective	Actions	Time-Scale
Teaching and learning	<p>There are increasing numbers of children working at a level below their key stage and needing to access preceding keystage curriculum in some areas.</p> <p>Appropriateness of learning opportunity not sufficiently well matched</p>	<p>To use branch mapping for setting work and assessment for children in the younger years.</p> <p>To break down the core curriculum into small steps which are tightly structured to ensure success.</p>	<p>Provide training for teachers on branch mapping for children who need these smaller steps.</p> <p>Provide support and training for staff where children need to access the curriculum in smaller steps in a structured and well-tracked way.</p>	July 2027
Activities and Trips	Children with specific medical needs may find it hard to participate in more active lessons and trips.	Ensure children can take part in active lessons and the full range of in school and out of class learning experiences.	Provide bespoke support and training for staff to support children with specific medical needs.	July 2027

Access to the Physical Environment 2025- 2027

Outdoor sensory space	Children with sensory needs and physical disabilities may find it difficult to manage on the busy playground during break and lunchtimes and benefit from a calmer environment.	To ensure there is a break-out space for those who need it during less structured times of the school day.	<p>Investigate the facilities in the playground for children with additional needs.</p> <p>Source additional PE resources/equipment for children with additional physical needs.</p>	Summer 2027
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Access to Information 2025 - 2027

EAL families and families needing support with written communication	There are increasing numbers of parents for whom English is not their first language or are not confident in written English who as a result find it difficult to access particular aspects of educational information.	Ensure parents are able to read and understand school paperwork, including SEND information. Make greater use of the TAF system to share information and understanding.	Continue to provide the opportunity for a staff member (Inclusion Manager) to meet with parents who need support in accessing information such as school applications, SEND consultations etc.	Ongoing as needed towards Summer 2027
EAL families	Increasing numbers of parents for whom English is not their first language who would benefit from speaking to someone who can translate into their home language.	Ensure parents are able to discuss school information when they have questions.	Support parents who do not speak English and need information translated. Use of visuals for signposting to additional support.	Ongoing as needed towards summer 2027