



## Accessibility Policy and Plan

This Accessibility Policy and Plan are drawn up in compliance with current legislation and requirements as specified in Schedule 10, relating to disability in the Equality Act 2010. School Governors are accountable for ensuring the implementation, review and reporting on progress of the Accessibility Plan over a prescribed period.

### Introduction and aims:

At Firfield Primary School, we are committed to providing an accessible environment which values and includes all stakeholders - pupils, staff, parents and visitors, regardless of their education, physical, sensory, social, spiritual, emotional and cultural needs. We are committed to challenging negative attitudes about disability and accessibility and to developing a culture of awareness, tolerance and respect. We aim to celebrate differences and actively promote the wellbeing of all children.

It is our aim to reduce or, wherever possible, eliminate barriers to the curriculum, fuller aspects of school life and the school environment for pupils, prospective pupils, staff, parents and disabled visitors.

This accessibility plan has been drawn up to cover a three year period. The plan will be updated annually.

### The plan will contain actions to:

- ✓ Improve access to the physical environment of the school sites. We will make reasonable adjustments to the physical environment of the school and will purchase/provide physical aids to enable stakeholders to access education.
- ✓ Increase access to the curriculum for pupils with a disability, ensuring that pupils with a disability are as equally prepared for life as are their able-bodied and neuro-typical peers. This covers teaching and learning and the wider curriculum of the school such as participation in after-school clubs and educational visits. It also covers the provision of specialist aids and equipment, which may assist these pupils when accessing the curriculum and other differentiated learning tasks.
- ✓ Improve and make reasonable adjustments to the delivery of written information to all stakeholders with disabilities. This information will be available in different formats within a reasonable time frame.

- ✓ The action plan for physical accessibility is related to a regular access audit of the School - it might not be feasible to undertake some of the work identified during the plan's three-year period - some actions may be carried over into the development of a new plan.
- ✓ The plan will be monitored by the school governors through the curriculum committee.
- ✓ The school acknowledges the need for on-going awareness-raising and staff training on disability discrimination.

#### Background:

The Special Educational Needs and Disability Act 2001 extended the Disability Discrimination Act of 1995 to cover education. As a school and governing body we must ensure that our practices and policies comply with these acts and increase access to education for disabled pupils. It is our duty to make sure that:

- ✓ We do not treat disabled pupils any less favorably for reasons relating to their disability.
- ✓ We make reasonable adjustments for disabled pupils, so that they are not disadvantaged.
- ✓ We will plan to increase access to education for disabled pupils.
- ✓ We will not discriminate against anyone because of a disability.
- ✓ We will promote positive attitude towards disabled pupils.
- ✓ We will celebrate and actively promote differences in school through specialist weeks and days alongside daily teaching and age-appropriate PSHE lessons
- ✓ We will try our best to remove barriers which may discourage disabled people from participating fully in all aspects of school life.
- ✓ We recognise that it is unlawful to discriminate against a disabled pupil by excluding them for a reason related to their impairment.

#### Definition of disability:

A person has a disability if he/she has a physical or mental impairment that is:

*Substantial, long-term and has an adverse effect on his/her ability to carry out normal every day activities.*

### Principles:

Compliance with the legislation mentioned above is consistent with the school's aims, Equal Opportunities Policy and the Special Educational Needs Policy.

- ✓ Our admissions policy does not discriminate against disabled children.
- ✓ We recognise that it is unlawful to discriminate against a disabled pupil by excluding them for a reason relating to their impairment.
- ✓ When recruiting staff, disabled applicants will not be discriminated against.
- ✓ We recognise and value parents' and carers' knowledge of their child's disability and will work in partnership with them, consulting with them where appropriate.
- ✓ We provide a broad, balanced, creative curriculum, which is differentiated to meet the needs of all pupils. This is to ensure that we overcome potential barriers to learning and assessment for individuals and groups of pupils and so that all staff are fully aware of the procedures for teaching and supporting pupils with disabilities.

Action required	Lead responsibility	Resources and costing	Performance criteria	Monitor and review	Evaluation
Improving access to the curriculum					
Ongoing:  Purchase new resources as needed to enable all pupils to have access to a broad and balanced curriculum	Inclusion Manager	Dependent on resources.	All children are fully included in the curriculum.	Inclusion Manger  Governors & SLT to receive feedback	
Ongoing:  Up-to-date training to ensure inclusion of all children.	Inclusion Manager  Relevant staff  CB - Level 3 SENTA training  Sensory training for some TAs and teachers, including Inclusion Manager.	Specialist support - as identified for children in school.  Training needs are identified and specialist teachers have been booked to provide this - costings will vary dependent on specialists.	Training will be delivered  Staff competent in strategies for a variety of areas.	Inclusion Manager  Assistant Head	
Explore further interventions to support varying needs of children in school - in particular, reading.	Inclusion Manager	Inclusion Manager management time.	Intervention impact assessments show interventions result in good progress.  Children are receiving the best possible support from school.	Inclusion Manager	
Ongoing:  Risk assessments to be in place to support children where appropriate.	Inclusion Manager  Headteacher	Risk assessments will be written when children first enter school,  Risk assessments will be reviewed annually, however changes can be made at any point.	Consideration has been made to individual needs.	Inclusion Manager  Headteacher  SENTAs	

## Improving the Delivery of Written information

All letters to be available in large print / different colours as needed.	Office Staff	Office staff to be aware of individual needs for families.	Information is shared effectively with all members of the school community.	SLT	
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## Improving the Physical Environment

Improvement in corridors along the Y3 & 4 area to be made clearer with coats and bags hung up properly to avoid blocking corridors.	Inclusion Manager Headteacher  Y3/4 teaching staff and TAs/HLTAs  Pupils in these classes.	Spot checks by SLT when walking through these areas.	The school is accessible for all stakeholders, in particular, those moving into these year groups from Y2 in September 2021.  Adaptations are made in light of new pupils or staff as needed.	Inclusion Manager Headteacher  Feedback to Governors	
Lighting improved in the Y3 disabled toilet.	School caretaker School business /building manager	New bulbs/lighting	Brighter lighting for visually impaired pupils and those with disabilities using this toilet.	Checked by Inclusion Manager once changed then reviewed annually.	
Disabled toilets cleared of equipment other than that to support pupils who require toileting assistance	Inclusion Manager to share with all staff.	Spot check times - SLT and Key stage leads to monitor throughout the year.	Clear toilets ready for use by pupils.	SLT/key stage leaders to feedback to Inclusion manager with any issues.	

- This action plan will be reviewed regularly.
- Additional actions will be added as and when identified.

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