

Accessibility Plan

Approved by: Academy Council Date: November 2022

Last reviewed on: [Date]

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1. Aims

Schools are required under the Equality Act 2010 to have an accessibility plan. The purpose of the plan is to:

- Increase the extent to which disabled pupils can participate in the curriculum
- Improve the physical environment of the school to enable disabled pupils to take better advantage of education, benefits, facilities and services provided
- Improve the availability of accessible information to disabled pupils

Our school aims to treat all its pupils fairly and with respect. This involves providing access and opportunities for all pupils without discrimination of any kind.

We review our accessibility plan based on the needs of the children and we will adapt our environment so that we can provide a suitable environment for all.

The plan will be made available online on the school website, and paper copies are available upon request.

Our school is also committed to ensuring staff are trained in equality issues with reference to the Equality Act 2010, including understanding disability issues.

The school supports any available partnerships to develop and implement the plan.

Our school's complaints procedure covers the accessibility plan. If you have any concerns relating to accessibility in school, this procedure sets out the process for raising these concerns.

We have included a range of stakeholders in the development of this accessibility plan, including staff and governors.

2. Legislation and guidance

This document meets the requirements of <u>schedule 10 of the Equality Act 2010</u> and the Department for Education (DfE) guidance for schools on the Equality Act 2010.

The Equality Act 2010 defines an individual as disabled if he or she has a physical or mental impairment that has a 'substantial' and 'long-term' adverse effect on his or her ability to undertake normal day to day activities.

Under the <u>Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Code of Practice</u>, 'long-term' is defined as 'a year or more' and 'substantial' is defined as 'more than minor or trivial'. The definition includes sensory impairments such as those affecting sight or hearing, and long-term health conditions such as asthma, diabetes, epilepsy and cancer.

Schools are required to make 'reasonable adjustments' for pupils with disabilities under the Equality Act 2010, to alleviate any substantial disadvantage that a disabled pupil faces in comparison with non-disabled pupils. This can include, for example, the provision of an auxiliary aid or adjustments to premises.

This policy complies with our funding agreement and articles of association.

3. Action plan

This action plan sets out the aims of our accessibility plan in accordance with the Equality Act 2010.

| Aim | Current good practice Include established practice and practice under development | Objectives State short, medium and long-term objectives | Actions to be taken | Person responsible | Date to complete actions by | Success criteria |
|--|---|---|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| Increase access to the curriculum for pupils with a disability | Our school offers a differentiated curriculum for all pupils. We use resources tailored to the needs of pupils who require support to access the curriculum. Curriculum resources include examples of people with disabilities. Curriculum progress is tracked for all pupils, including those with a disability. Targets are set effectively and are appropriate for pupils with additional needs. The curriculum is reviewed to ensure it meets the needs of all pupils. | Continue to build staff knowledge of SEND and how to support children with varying needs. | Continued CPD | ТВ | September 2023 | Staff will have a better understanding of supporting children with additional needs. |
| Improve and maintain access to the physical | The environment is adapted to the needs of pupils as required. | Review accessibility of classrooms and some exits from classrooms. | Improve access through some doorways. | SM | Sept 2023 | |

| environment | This includes: Ramps Disabled parking bays Disabled toilets and changing facilities Library shelves at wheelchair-accessible height | Review toilet and changing facilities. | Improve toilet and changing facilities for the school. | | | |
|---|--|---|---|----|----------|--|
| Improve the delivery of information to pupils with a disability | Our school uses a range of communication methods to ensure information is accessible. This includes: • Internal signage • Large print resources • Pictorial or symbolic representations | Continue to support children as appropriate with accessibility through signage and symbols as needed. | Ongoing review of what we have in place already linked to children's needs. | ТВ | On going | Information is displayed clearly for all children to access. |

4. Monitoring arrangements

This document will be reviewed every **3** years, but may be reviewed and updated more frequently if necessary.

It will be approved by the Academy Council.

5. Links with other policies

This accessibility plan is linked to the following policies and documents:

- Risk assessment policy
- Health and safety policy
- Equality information and objectives (public sector equality duty) statement for publication
- Special educational needs (SEN) information report
- Supporting pupils with medical conditions policy

Appendix 1: Accessibility audit

| Feature | Description | Actions to be taken | Person responsible | Date to complete actions by |
|-------------------------|-------------|---------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| Number of storeys | | | | |
| Corridor access | | | | |
| Parking bays | | | | |
| Entrances | | | | |
| Ramps | | | | |
| Toilets | | | | |
| Reception area | | | | |
| Internal signage | | | | |
| Emergency escape routes | | | | |