

# Accessibility plan



## Highfields Primary School

**Approved by:** Mark Wilkes

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**Last reviewed on:** September 2019

**Next review due by:** [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.

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.

## 2. Legislation and guidance

This document meets the requirements of [schedule 10 of the Equality Act 2010](#) 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 [Special Educational Needs and Disability \(SEND\) Code of Practice](#), '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.

### 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 <i>Include established practice and practice under development</i>	Objectives <i>State short, medium and long-term objectives</i>	Actions to be taken	Person responsible	Date to complete actions by	Success criteria
Increase access to the curriculum for pupils with a disability	<p>Our school offers a differentiated curriculum for all pupils.</p> <p>We use resources tailored to the needs of pupils who require support to access the curriculum.</p> <p>Curriculum resources include examples of people with disabilities.</p> <p>Curriculum progress is tracked for all pupils, including those with a disability.</p> <p>The curriculum is reviewed to ensure it meets the needs of all pupils.</p>	<p>To increase staff awareness and understanding of specific disabilities.</p> <p>To improve access of the curriculum through use of ICT.</p>	<p>To build a program for staff CPD which takes into account a range of disabilities e.g. PE (how to lead truly inclusive PE lessons); understanding the needs of children with a hearing impairment; adapting pedagogy to meet the needs of children with autism</p> <p>To audit current use of ICT to support SEND pupils.</p> <p>To explore good practice by collaborating with partner schools in order to improve our own practice.</p> <p>To purchase ICT equipment/software for use with SEND pupils.</p>	<p>TT</p> <p>TT and LS</p>	<p>March 2019</p> <p>July 2019</p> <p>December 2020</p>	<p>A planned program to follow to increase staff knowledge and understanding of disability.</p> <p>An action plan of improvements to school practice developed in response to training (this will be ongoing until 2021)</p>

					March/April 2020	
Improve and maintain access to the physical environment	The environment is adapted to the needs of pupils as required. e.g. ramp access to mobile classrooms	To increase access to main school building and school hall for wheelchair users.	New doors fitted to all exits/entrances in the school hall which include a wider frame.	MW	July 2019	Greater access to main school building via the school hall.
		To improve the internal lighting so that it is conducive to a more effective learning environment.	Complete a SALIX bid to replace the lighting throughout the whole school	MW	April 2020 to be completed July 2021	Visual distractions have been eliminated. Lighting is more suitable for pupils with sensory difficulties.
		Improve external lighting around the car park and school entrance.	Install better carpark lighting	MW	July 2020	Better access to the site at night time.
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: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Internal signage</li> <li>Pictorial or symbolic representations</li> </ul>	Increase parental access to the online services and information provided by the school	Developing internet access via locating a computer system in the school entrance.	MW	July 2020	All parents will have equal access to online and information provided by the school
		To make use of a school app to share information and improve the use of the school website	Review current use of the school website and the school app.	MW TT	Feb 2020	Increased information sharing.
			Develop the SEN sections of both the website and app to make it more userfriendly and provide a wider range of information.	MW TT	July 2020	

## **4. Monitoring arrangements**

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

## **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)
- Supporting pupils with medical condition