

HEDDON-ON-THE-WALL ST. ANDREW'S CE FIRST SCHOOL

ACCESSIBILITY PLAN

'Love your neighbour as yourself'

Matthew 22:39

'Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everybody'

Romans 12:17

3-year period covered by the plan: 2016 - 2019

Plan agreed: May 2016
Plan Review: May 2019
Lead member of staff: Mr. A. Wheatley (Headteacher)

Introduction

'We strongly believe that each child is uniquely made in the image of God with their own strengths, weaknesses, interests and personality. Our core purpose is to ensure that children receive a stimulating and exciting curriculum with opportunities to explore their interest which will enable them to become life-long learners while reaching their full potential.

The school fully embraces the core Christian values which provide the foundation for all our policy and practice meaning we help children in all areas to enable them to become happy, well rounded young people.'

The purpose of this plan is to show how Heddon-on-the-Wall St. Andrew's CE First School intends, over time, to increase the accessibility of our school for disabled pupils.

Definition of Disability

According to the Equality Act 2010 a person has a disability if:

- He or she has a physical or mental impairment, and
- The impairment has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on his or her ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities.

Legal Background

The SEN and Disability Act 2001 extended the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 (DDA) to cover education. Since September 2002, the Governing Body has had three key duties towards disabled pupils, under Part 4 of the DDA:

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1. not to treat disabled pupils less favourably for a reason related to their disability;
2. to make reasonable adjustments for disabled pupils, so that they are not at a substantial disadvantage;
3. to plan to increase access to education for disabled pupils.

This plan sets out the proposals of the Governing Body of the school to increase access to education for disabled pupils in the three areas required by the planning duties in the DDA:

- a) increasing the extent to which disabled pupils can participate in the school curriculum which includes teaching and learning and the wider curriculum of the school, such as participation in after school clubs, leisure and cultural activities or school visits;

- b) improving the environment of the school to increase the extent to which disabled pupils can take advantage of education and associated services which includes improvements to the physical environment of the school and physical aids to access education;
- c) improving the delivery to disabled pupils of information, which is provided in writing for pupils who are not disabled eg: handouts, textbooks and information about school events. The information should take account of the learners' disabilities and the preferred format of learners and parents and be made available within a reasonable timeframe.

Heddon-on-the-Wall St. Andrew's CE First School aims to treat all stakeholders, including learners, prospective learners, staff, Governors, and other members of the school community favourably and, wherever possible, takes reasonable steps to avoid placing anyone at a substantial disadvantage. The school aims to work closely with disabled learners, their families and any relevant external agencies in order to remove or minimise any potential barriers to learning, which puts them at a disadvantage, but allows them to learn, achieve and participate fully in school life. The school is active in promoting positive attitudes to disabled people in the school and in planning to increase access to education for all disabled learners. As part of the ongoing communications with parents, carers and other stakeholders the school continues to look for ways to improve accessibility.

It is a requirement that the school's Accessibility Plan is resourced, implemented, reviewed and revised as necessary and reported on annually. Attached is a set of action plans showing how the school will address the priorities identified in the plan.

The School's Context

The school is a maintained voluntary controlled Church of England school for boys and girls with an of age range 3-9 years old. The school is built into the side of a hill in 1963 and the site has multiple levels. The building is single storey with a change in levels internally. There is wheelchair access to all parts of the building via external ramps. Access to the school yard is also via wide steps.

The Current Range of Disabilities within the School

The school has learners with a limited range of disabilities including Autistic Spectrum Disorder, Ataxia and mobility difficulties and hearing impairment. When a learner joins the school with a specific difficulty the school contacts the Local Authority professionals who can provide support, guidance and where appropriate assessments of the environment for school and parents.

Some learners have asthma and all staff are aware of these children. In line with the medication policy some learners carry their own inhalers while some are stored in the classrooms. Any use of inhalers is recorded. All parents must provide a Care Plan for such learners.

Some learners have severe allergies and / or food intolerances. All parents must provide a Care Plan for such learners.

All medical information is held in the Medical File and is available to all staff. The school has competent First Aiders who hold current First Aid certificates, many of whom also hold Paediatric First Aid certificates.

The current First Aiders are: Mrs. J. Broadbent, Mrs. M. Gilhome-Lamb, Mrs. A. Haddock, Mrs. A. McGurk, Mrs. J. Southern & Mrs. S. Ziolkowski.

All medication is kept in a central and secure place which has easy access for First Aiders and staff members. Administration of medication is by First Aiders. In line with the Medication Policy all parents must complete administration of medicines consent forms outlining the illness, amount and time of medication. All medication that is given is recorded.

We are working within a national framework for educational inclusion provided by:

- Inclusive School (DfES 0774/2001)
- SEN & Disability Act 2001
- The SEND Code of Practice: 0-25 Years (January 2015)
- The Disability Discrimination Act (amended for school 2001)
- Code of Practice for Schools (Disability Rights Commission)
- ISI inspection

The priorities for the Accessibility Plan for our school were identified by a planning group who consisted of:

- SEN Governor: Ms. S. McFarlane
- Chair of Governors: Mrs. M. Stromsoy
- Headteacher: Mr. A. Wheatley
- SENDCo: Mr. A. Wheatley

Making it happen : Management, co-ordination and implementation

The Accessibility Plan should be read in conjunction with the following school policies and documents:

- Curriculum Policies;
- Health and Safety Policy;
- Single Equalities Policy;
- Special Educational Needs and Disability Policy;
- Special Educational Needs and Disability Information Report;
- Promoting Positive Behaviour Policy;
- School Improvement Plan.

The Senior Management Team and Full Governing Body take full responsibility for the Accessibility Plan. It may not be feasible to undertake and complete all the works during the life of this plan and therefore some items will roll forwards into subsequent plans. An accessibility audit will be completed by the school prior to the end of each plan period to inform the development of the next plan.

Getting hold of the school's plan

The Accessibility Plan is available on:

- The school website: <http://www.heddon-school.co.uk/key-information/send-disability/>
- The school intranet system for staff;
- Paper copies are available upon request from the School Office.

As the Accessibility Plan is available electronically there is the option to increase the font size as required. A standard font (Ariel) has been chosen for its clarity.

In writing the Accessibility Plan consideration has been given to ensuring it is as readable as possible with few acronyms and as little jargon as possible.

The School is happy to provide the Accessibility Plan in different languages / formats as required. Each website page has an embedded link to Google Translate.

Date Agreed:

Review Date: May 2019

Signed (Governor)

**HEDDON-ON-THE-WALL ST. ANDREW'S CE FIRST SCHOOL
ACCESSIBILITY PLAN 2016-2019**

Targets	Strategies	Outcomes	Timeframe	Achieved
EQUALITY AND INCLUSION				
To ensure that the Accessibility Plan becomes an annual item at the Full Governing Body meetings	Clerk to Governors to add to list for inclusion on agenda at Summer term Full Governing Body meetings; Designated Governor for Special Educational Needs and Disability to ensure consideration is given to the Accessibility Plan during meetings.	Adherence to legislation	To complete by May 2016; On agenda annually	✓
To ensure that all policies consider the implications of disability access	To be considered and added if necessary during normal review of policies.	Policies reflect current legislation	Ongoing	
To improve awareness of all staff to disability issues	Review staff training needs as part of Appraisal process; Source and provide training for staff as required.	Staff fully aware of the accessibility and disability needs and issues of learners in their care	Ongoing	
PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT				
To ensure that, where possible, reasonable adjustments are made to make the school buildings and grounds are accessible for all learners and adults and to continue to improve the school's physical environment for all	Audit of accessibility of school buildings and grounds to be completed as part of next Health and Safety inspection by designated Governor; Designated Governor to provide a written report to the Finance and Premises Committee suggesting actions; Suggestions to implemented as budget allows	Modifications will be made to the school buildings and grounds to improve access for all	Audit completed by July 2016; Report to Governors by September 2016; Implementation ongoing	
CURRICULUM				
To review the current curriculum plans including Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) curriculum to ensure it is relevant,	Senior Management Team to lead review meetings in Key Stage teams; Curriculum and planning to reflect	All learners are able to access a relevant and engaging curriculum; Promotion of a positive attitude to	Review complete by July 2016 Annually	

accessible and promotes disability equality	how differentiation / adaptations allow access to all learners; Specific work to promote disability equality is built into the PSHE curriculum	disability within the school		
To continue to provide appropriate training to staff to ensure that they are able to meet the needs of disabled learners	Special Educational Needs and Disability Co-ordinator to review the needs of learners through assessment data and discussions with parents, carers and relevant external agencies; Additional training to be sourced and provided as required.	Staff are all highly skilled in enabling all learners to access the curriculum	Termly review with training ongoing as required	
To provide specialist teaching aids and equipment to promote participation in learning by all pupils	Assess the needs of learners in each class; Seek advice from parents and carers as to their view; Seek advice and assessment (if necessary) from the Local Authority and / or relevant external agencies; Provide equipment as required such as writing slopes, microphone & speakers, laptops etc; Source training for staff in use of equipment if required.	Learners more engaged and will develop independent learning skills enabling them to reach their full potential	Reviewed termly by Special Educational Needs and Disability Co-ordinator and Designated Governor	
To meet the needs of individual learners during statutory tests (Year 1 Phonic Screen & Year 2 resits and Year 2 SATs)	Learners will be assessed in accordance with normal classroom practice; Any adjustments required will be made in line with the TAG (Test Administration Guidance) from the Department for Education.	Barriers to learning and performance will be reduced or removed, enabling learners to achieve their full potential	Annually	
To ensure that all learners are able to access all out of school and extra-curricular activities including clubs and school trips	Previsits for proposed visits to ensure there is appropriate disability access; Staff providing after school clubs to consider how to make accessible to	All providers of out of school activities will comply with legislation to ensure all learners can participate regardless of disabilities;	Ongoing	

	all learners; Review of out of school provision to ensure compliance with legislation.	All school visits will be made to sites with appropriate disabled access to enable all learners to participate		
WRITTEN / OTHER INFORMATION				
To ensure that all parents / carers and other members of the school community can access information	Information provided on website & clearly signposted through school Facebook page, Twitter feed, text messaging and e-newsletter service; Written information provided upon request; Information available in different formats upon request; School will provide access to computers in school should enquirer not have internet access.	Parents, carers and other members of the school community able to easily access information.	As needed	
To ensure that parents / carers who are unable to attend parents evenings due to a disability or illness can still speak to the class teacher about their child	Staff to record attendance at parents evenings; School Office to contact all parents who do not / were not able to attend to arrange either a telephone appointment with the class teacher or a written report to be sent home.	Parents / carers are fully informed about their child's progress.	Termly	

