

# ***Accessibility Plan***

## ***Northwood Primary***



Policy Version Control	
Policy type	Local Governing Body
Policy prepared by	Amy Young Head Teacher
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# *Accessibility Plan*

## **Introduction**

The Equality Act 2010 replaced previous discrimination law and provides a single piece of legislation covering all the types of discrimination that are unlawful.

Schools have to carry out accessibility planning for disabled pupils.

Our school's accessibility plans are aimed at:

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

Attached is a set of action plans showing how the school will address the priorities identified in the plan. We recognise the need to provide adequate resources for implementing the action plans and will review them annually.

## **Definition of Disability:**

Disability is defined by the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 (DDA):

'A person has a disability 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 carry out normal day to day activities.'

The definition of disability under the law is a wide one. The definition includes people with a hearing or visual impairment, cerebral palsy, muscular dystrophy, mental health issues and incontinence. People with ADHD, Autistic Spectrum Disorder, Downs Syndrome and Hydrocephalus are included. Medical conditions such as cystic fibrosis, severe asthma, diabetes, cancer, multiple sclerosis, epilepsy, sickle cell anaemia and HIV are deemed disabilities. Facial disfigurement, severe dyslexia, gross obesity and diagnosed eating disorders are all included.

## **The purpose and direction of the school's plan: vision and values**

At Northwood school name we are committed to giving all of our children every opportunity to achieve the highest of standards. We do this by taking account of pupils' varied life experiences and needs. We offer a broad and balanced curriculum and have high expectations for all children. The achievements, attitudes and well-being of all our children matter. Northwood School promotes the individuality of all our children, irrespective of ethnicity, attainment, age, disability, gender or background.

Our school aims to be an inclusive and kind school. We actively seek to remove the barriers to learning and participation that can hinder or exclude individual pupils, or groups of pupils.

Pupils with disabilities are fully included in the life of the school. They participate fully in the curriculum, and are fully involved in school visits. They access all areas of the school building, as the building is newly refurbished and fully complies with all Disability Discrimination Act Regulations. As such, we are proud to have a building which includes:

- A shower room which is accessible for all
- A lift, to ensure that all children can access all parts of the school
- Wide doors – externally and internally, so that children and adults using wheelchairs do not require special routes around the school – and children can access every room in the building that they need to

- An evac-chair – in order to support the evacuation of those who are immobile and cannot use the lift in an emergency situation
- A medical room, where children and adults can administer medicines privately and comfortably
- Accessible toilet areas
- Wide footpaths round the school building – ensuring that wheelchair users do not feel uncomfortable travelling along narrow paths with pedestrians
- A dropped height reception desk – so that disabled visitors feel appropriately welcomed from their initial moments of being in the school
- Dedicated disabled car parking spaces

They are able to and are encouraged to attend a range of after school clubs and represent the school equally as much as their able-bodied peers.

### **Information from pupil data**

In order to prepare for pupils' needs we use a variety of sources to gather information about pupils, prior to their starting our school, whether they start in reception or join us later in their school life. We meet with parents, either in school or in the home, as well as liaising with other schools / settings, and with other professionals.

We currently have children with the following:

- Cognition and Learning Needs
- Communication and Interaction Needs

### **Views of those consulted during the development of the plan**

We will consult annually with pupils, parents and staff on whole school issues. This will form part of the pupil and parental questionnaires. This is reported to the Trust Board and the Local Governing Body.

We meet parents formally each term to discuss the progress of children academically and socially.

Annually, we meet parents of children with Care Plans to review the Care Plan and the associated support. We review and refine our practice accordingly.

We will consult with experts both inside and outside of the trust when new situations regarding pupils with disabilities are experienced.

**This policy is monitored by the governing body and will be reviewed every year for 3 years, but monitored annually.**

**Other linked policies include – Equality objectives, SEND policy and SEND Information Report.**

## School Accessibility Plan 2025 – 2026

<b>Strand 1: Access to the curriculum</b>				
<b>Action</b>	<b>Team(s)/ Individual Responsible</b>	<b>Timescale</b>	<b>Monitoring</b>	<b>Outcomes</b>
Make reasonable adjustments to ensure maximum participation in the curriculum for all children with disabilities. Review individual disabilities within classes and adjust aspects of the curriculum to ensure learners with disabilities can participate	Class Teachers	July in preparation for following academic year and then as required with any new starters	SENDCO through review of provision.	Children with disabilities can participate fully in all aspects of the curriculum.
Ensure appropriate specialist equipment is available to support children with disabilities. Review EHCP plans and reports from professionals to check what is needed.	SENDCO	Termly	SLT through review of provision for SEND	Children with disabilities are well supported
When reviewing curriculum resources consider the needs of children with additional needs to ensure accessibility to the curriculum.	Class teachers and subject leads	Ongoing	SLT monitoring exercises	Class teachers have appropriate resources to meet the learning needs of children with additional needs and, as a result, they make good progress.
When planning educational visits and experiences ensure that the needs of children with disabilities are taken into account, before booking any visits. Visits are not to be booked unless all learners have the opportunity to attend.	SLT	Ongoing	SLT through reviews of visits and experiences	Children with disabilities access a range of educational visits and experiences
<i>Ensure that staff are appropriately trained in meeting the needs of children with disabilities.</i>	SENDCO	Review termly	Monitoring activities	Staff are confident in supporting children with disabilities. The learning, social and medical needs of children with disabilities are met.

<b>Strand 2:</b> Physical environment				
<b>Action</b>	<b>Team(s) / Individual Responsible</b>	<b>Timescale/ Cost</b>	<b>Monitoring</b>	<b>Outcomes</b>
Review the physical environment to ensure the needs of specific children with disabilities are met. Review EHCP plans and reports from professionals to check what is needed.	SLT/ SENDCO	Ongoing	SEND & SLT monitoring activities	revision is made to ensure that children with disabilities are able to access all aspects of learning and recreation, and participate fully in school life.
Ensure appropriate specialist furniture is available to support children with disabilities. Review EHCP plans and reports from professionals to check what is needed.	SLT/ SENDCO	Ongoing	SEND & SLT monitoring activities	Children with disabilities are well supported.

<b>Strand 3:</b> Access to written information/improving the delivery of information				
<b>Action</b>	<b>Team(s) Responsible</b>	<b>Timescale</b>	<b>Monitoring</b>	<b>Outcomes</b>
When reviewing the marking and assessment policy consideration to be given to the needs of children with additional needs and practice adapted accordingly.	SLT	Ongoing	Annually	children with additional needs have a clear understanding about how well they are doing and how they can improve their work.
When reviewing the homework policy consideration to be given to the needs of children with additional needs and homework activities amended accordingly	SLT	Ongoing	Annually	Children with additional needs complete homework which is appropriate to their needs, and it is accessible.

Information displayed around school e.g. signs, notices, displays, instructions As information is changed, consider the needs of children with additional needs and ensure signage is appropriate for them	All staff	Ongoing	Pupil voice discussions SEND & SLT monitoring activities	Children with additional needs can access information which is displayed and make effective use of it.
Visual Timetables Teachers make use of visual timetables to support learners with disabilities.	Class Teachers	Ongoing	Pupil voice discussions SEND & SLT monitoring activities	Children with additional needs know and understand what they will be doing each day.
PECS Staff are confident in using PECS to communicate with some children.	Class teachers & Tas where appropriate	Ongoing	SENDCO	Staff communicate effectively with children who need to use PECS.
Ensure that appropriate books are available for children with disabilities.	SENDCO/ English Lead	Ongoing	SLT monitoring activities English Lead monitoring	Children with disabilities have access to a range of appropriate books which meet their specific needs.