



Northgate Primary School

Accessibility Policy

Introduction

This Accessibility Policy and Plan are drawn up in compliance with current legislation and requirements as specified in Schedule 10 relating to Disability of 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.

A disabled person is:

'someone who has a physical or mental impairment which has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on his or her ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities' Equality Act 2010

Northgate Primary School is actively committed to providing an accessible environment which values and includes all 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 inclusion.

We plan over time, to ensure the improving accessibility of provision for all pupils, staff and visitors to the school and nursery.

Statutory requirements and recognised good practice regarding accessibility will be met at all times during the restructuring from an Infants to a Primary School: due to start in July 2015. The complete refurbished areas and additional building will enhance future accessibility provision.

Improving Accessibility

The Accessibility Plan will contain relevant actions to:

Improve access to the **physical environment** of the school, adding specialist facilities if necessary. This covers reasonable adjustments to the physical environment of the school and physical aids to access education.

Increase access to the **curriculum** for pupils with a disability, expanding and making reasonable adjustment to the curriculum as necessary to ensure that pupils with a disability are as, equally, prepared for life as are the able-bodied pupils; (if a school fails to do this they are in breach of the DDA).

This covers teaching and learning and the wider curriculum of the school such as participation in after-school clubs, leisure and cultural activities or school visits. It also covers the provision of specialist **aids and equipment**, which may assist these pupils in accessing the curriculum.

Improve and make reasonable adjustments to the delivery of **written information** to pupils, staff, parents and visitors with disabilities including information on Teachers2Parents and the schools website. Examples might include hand-outs, timetables, newsletters, textbooks, posters, displays and information about the school and school events. The information should be made available in various preferred formats within a reasonable time frame.

Making it happen:

An Accessibility Plan will be drawn up to cover a three year period. The Access Plan will be reviewed annually by the SLT and Governing Body.

The plan will be monitored through the School Improvement and Resources sub committees of the Governing Body by being added as a standing agenda item.

The Access Plan will be available to all children, staff, parents and local community representatives to contribute to the review process.

The Action Plan for physical accessibility relates to the Access Audit of the School, which is undertaken regularly with local authority support. It may not be feasible to undertake some of the works during the life of the current Accessibility Plan due to the school reorganisation from Infant to Primary and therefore some items will roll forward into subsequent plans. The audit will need to be revisited prior to the end of each three-year period.

As curriculum policies are reviewed, a section relating to access will be added to that on inclusion. The terms of reference for all governors' committees will contain an item on "having regard to matters relating to Access".

General information literature will make reference to this Accessibility Plan.

The School's complaints procedure covers the Accessibility Plan.

Getting hold of the School's plan:

The School's Accessibility Plan will be available on the School website

A reference only hard copy of the School's Accessibility Plan will be available in the school foyer. Copies will be printed and issued on request.

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Agreed by Staff: May 2017

Agreed by Governors: May 2017

Reviewed: Annually



Chair of Governors