

Oxspring Primary School
Head Teacher: Mrs S. Irwin

Assistant Head Teacher: Mr P. West
Chair of Governors: Mrs P. Heggie



'Learn, Endeavour, Aspire, Respect, Nurture'

Revised: March 2019
Review Date: March 2022

ACCESSIBILITY PLAN



BARNSELY
Metropolitan Borough Council

ACCESSIBILITY PLAN

Our School's Mission: 'To be a learning community with a culture of ambition and achievement'

Our Vision: 'Embracing Learning - a school for all'

Our motto: 'Learn, Endeavour, Aspire, Respect, Nurture'

Our Values:



Accessibility Plan

Introduction

Oxspring Primary School has high ambitions for all its pupils and expects them to participate and achieve in every aspect of school life. Our commitment to equal opportunities is an important aspect of our overall commitment to be a fully inclusive school. This plan identifies how the school meets the needs of disabled pupils in response to the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Code of Practice 2014: 0 to 25 years.

This Accessibility Plan is 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 of progress of the Accessibility Plan over a prescribed period. This plan will therefore be reviewed every three years by the Governing Body.

The Equality Act 2010 replaced all existing equality legislation, including the Disability Discrimination Act. The effect of the law is the same as in the past, meaning that "schools cannot unlawfully discriminate against pupils because of sex, race, disability, religion or belief and sexual orientation".

The aim of the Accessibility Plan ensures that the school continues to improve all aspects of the physical environment of the school site, the curriculum and written information so that all pupils with a disability can take full advantage of the education and associated opportunities provided by the school.

According to the Equality Act 2010, a person has a disability if: (a) He or she has a physical or mental impairment, and (b) The impairment has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on his or her ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities.

The Accessibility Plan is structured to complement and support the school's Equality Objectives, and will similarly be published on the school website. Paper copies can be requested from the school office. We understand that the Local Authority will monitor the school's activity under the Equality Act 2010 (and in particular Schedule 10 regarding Accessibility) and will advise upon the compliance with that duty.

This plan underpins the LA's Strategy for planning to improve access at a local level, by committing the school to a programme of actions, evaluation and review which will improve access to the curriculum for students with special needs and disabilities. This plan operates alongside the school's SEND policy and SEN Information Report and is consistent with it in terms of principles and approaches to resourcing.

Definitions of SEND:

'A child or young person has SEN if they have a learning difficulty or disability which calls for special educational provision to be made for him or her.

A child of compulsory school age or a young person has a learning difficulty or a disability if he or she:

- has significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of others of the same age or

- has a disability which prevents or hinders him or her making use of facilities of a kind generally provided for others of the same age in mainstream schools or colleges.'

(SEND code of Practice 2014)

'Many children and young people who have SEN may have a disability under the Equality Act 2010- that is'... 'a physical or mental impairment which has a long-term and substantial adverse effect on their ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities'.

The definition provides a relatively low threshold and includes more children than many realise: 'long-term' is defined as 'a year or more' and 'substantial is defined as 'more than minor or trivial'. This definition includes sensory impairments such as those affecting sight and hearing, and long-term health conditions such as asthma, diabetes, epilepsy and cancer. Children and young people with such conditions do not necessarily have SEN, but there is a significant overlap between disabled children and young people and those with SEN. Where a disabled child or young person requires special educational provision they will also be covered by the SEN definition.' (SEND code of Practice 2014)

Definition of Disability:

(Equality Act 2010)

"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" Physical or mental impairment includes sensory impairments and also hidden impairments. 'Substantial' means 'more than minor or trivial'. 'Long-term' means has lasted or is likely to last more than 12 months.

The definition is broad and includes children with a wide range of impairments, including learning disabilities, dyslexia, autism, speech and language impairments, Attention Deficit and Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), diabetes or epilepsy, where the effect of the impairment on the pupil's ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities is adverse, substantial and long-term. All those with cancer or surviving cancer; HIV or Multiple Sclerosis are now included from the point of diagnosis.

Normal day-to-day activity

The test of whether the impairment affects normal day-to-day activity is whether it affects one or more of the following:

- Mobility
- Manual dexterity
- Physical co-ordination
- Continence
- Ability to lift, carry or otherwise move everyday objects
- Speech, hearing or eyesight
- Memory or ability to concentrate, learn or understand
- Perception of risk of physical danger

Oxspring Primary School is committed to providing an environment that enables full curriculum access that 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 taking positive action with regard to disability and to reinforcing our culture of inclusion.

Planning Duty

The school recognises its duty under the Equality Act 2010 as follows:

'The Equality Act 2010 sets out the legal obligations that schools, early years providers, post-16 institutions, local authorities have towards disabled children and young people;

- They **must not** directly or indirectly discriminate against, harass or victimise disabled children and young people
- They **must** make reasonable adjustments, including the provision of auxiliary aids and services, to ensure that disabled children and young people are not at a substantial disadvantage compared with their peers. This duty is anticipatory- it requires thought to be given in advance to what disabled children and young people might require and what adjustments might need to be made to prevent that disadvantage.
- Public bodies, including FE institutions, LA, maintained schools, maintained nursery schools, academies and free schools are covered by the public sector equality duty and when carrying out their functions **must** have regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, promote equality of opportunity and foster good relations between disabled and non-disabled children and young people. They **must** publish information to demonstrate their compliance with this general duty and **must** prepare and publish objectives to achieve the core aims of the general duty. Objectives **must** be specific and measureable.' (SEND code of Practice 2014)

The duties cover discrimination in the provision of services and the provision of education, including admissions and exclusions. (SEND code of Practice 2014)

The Accessibility Plan should be read in conjunction with-

1. The LA admissions policy.
2. The Equality and diversity policy
3. The Behaviour policy.
4. The Special Educational Needs and Disabilities policy.

All policies will be checked to ensure that they do not, unintentionally, treat pupils with disabilities less favourably.

Oxspring Primary School is committed to an inclusive curriculum and increasing access to the school's facilities for all by:-

1. **Increasing the extent to which disabled pupils can participate in the school's curriculum.** 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.
2. **Improving access to the physical environment of the school.** This covers improvements to the physical environment of the school and physical aids to access education.

3. **Improving the delivery of written information to disabled pupils.** This will include planning to make the written information that is normally provided by the school to its pupils, available to disabled pupils.

Audit of existing provision

Curriculum

Question	Yes	No
Do you ensure that teachers and teaching assistants have the necessary training to teach and support disabled pupils?	✓	
Are your classrooms optimally organised for disabled pupils?	✓	
Do lessons provide opportunities for all pupils to achieve?	✓	
Are lessons responsive to pupil diversity?	✓	
Do lessons involve work to be done by individuals, pairs, groups and the whole class?	✓	
Are all pupils encouraged to take part in music, drama and physical activities?	✓	
Do staff recognise and allow for the mental effort expended by some disabled pupils, for example using lip reading?	✓	
Do staff recognise and allow for the additional time required by some disabled pupils to use equipment in practical work?	✓	
Do staff provide alternative ways of giving access to experience or understanding for disabled pupils who cannot engage in particular activities, for example some forms of exercise in physical education?	✓	
Do you provide access to computer technology appropriate for students with disabilities?	✓	
Are school visits, including overseas visits, made accessible to all pupils irrespective of attainment or impairment?	✓	
Are there high expectations of all pupils?	✓	
Do staff seek to remove all barriers to learning and participation?	✓	
Are support staff deployed to best effect to support teaching and learning?	✓	

Physical Environment

Question	Yes	No
Does the size and layout of areas - including all academic, sporting, play, social facilities; classrooms, the school hall, library, and outdoor sporting facilities, playgrounds and common rooms - allow access for all pupils?	✓	
Can pupils who use wheelchairs move around the school without experiencing barriers to access such as those caused by doorways, steps and stairs, toilet facilities and showers?	✓	
Are pathways of travel around the school site and parking arrangements safe, routes logical and well signed?	✓	
Are emergency and evacuation systems set up to inform ALL pupils, including pupils with SEN and disability; including alarms with both visual and auditory components?	✓	
Are non-visual guides used, to assist people to use buildings including lifts with tactile buttons?		✓
Could any of the décor or signage be considered to be confusing or disorientating for disabled pupils with visual impairment, autism or epilepsy?		✓
Are areas to which pupils should have access well lit?	✓	
Are steps made to reduce background noise for hearing impaired pupils such as considering a room's acoustics, noisy equipment?	✓	
Is furniture and equipment selected, adjusted and located appropriately?	✓	

Written Information

Question	Yes	No
Do you provide information in simple language, symbols, modified or large print, on audiotape or in Braille for pupils and prospective pupils who may have difficulty with standard forms of printed information?	✓	
Do you ensure that information is presented to groups in a way, which is user friendly for people with disabilities e.g. by reading aloud-overhead projections and describing diagrams?	✓	
Do you have the facilities such as ICT to produce written information in different formats?	✓	
Do you ensure that staff are familiar with technology and practices developed to assist people with disabilities?	✓	

Reviewing, Monitoring and Evaluating the Plan

1. Adequate resources will be allocated to enable implementation of the plan.
2. This plan will be kept under review and revised as necessary. The *Governors* will achieve this through half termly FGB meetings as appropriate and in line with LA guidance.
3. The plan will be subject to monitoring by OFSTED during inspections.

Date of plan: March 2019

Date to be reviewed: March 2022

Member of staff responsible: Sharon Irwin (Head teacher)